

THE AUSTIN

CHRONICLE

VOLUME 30 ★ NUMBER 16
DECEMBER 17, 2010

12th & Nowhere

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**Neighbors Collide at the Intersection
of Redevelopment and Affordable Housing**

BY WELLS DUNBAR • P.28

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A vibrant, cartoon-style poster for the Blue Genie Art Bazaar's 10th anniversary. The central focus is a large, stylized house with a yellow roof and green trim. A black and white cartoon cat with a blue nose and a green leaf in its mouth is perched on the roof. To the left of the cat is a pink-haired girl with a blue bow. To the right is a clock face with Roman numerals and a Santa Claus character. The text 'BLUE GENIE' is written in large, colorful, stylized letters across the top. Below it, 'ART BAZAAR' is written in large, bold, colorful letters. The poster includes information about the 10th anniversary, dates (Dec 1st to 24th), opening hours (10 AM daily), and a free admission policy. It also promotes a free holiday party on Thursday, Dec 16th, featuring DJ Bigface and AFRDFREDUE. The poster is decorated with stars, leaves, and a 'WOW!' speech bubble.

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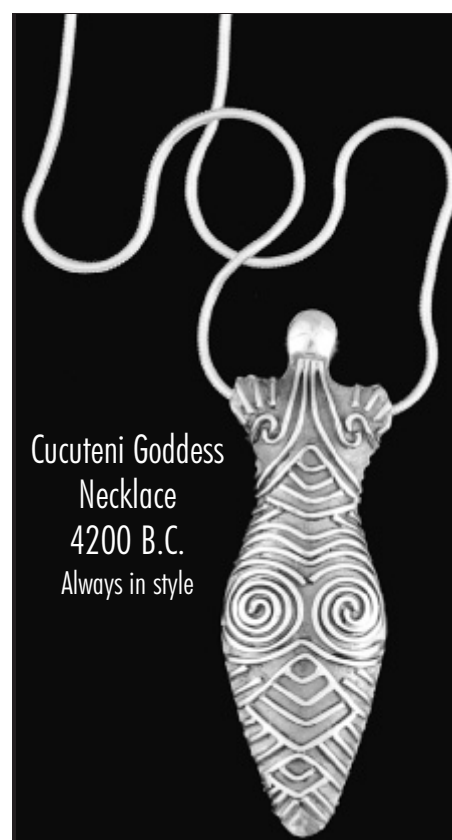


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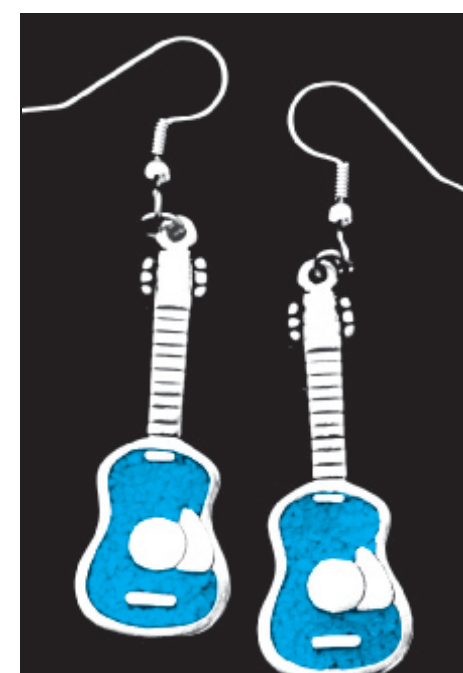
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"PAGE TWO" IS ON VACATION.

Postmarks

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'PI' ARONOFSKY'S TEMPLATE

Dear Editor,

Re: Film review of *Black Swan* by Kimberley Jones, Dec. 10 issue [Film Listings]: With the endless reviews and comments in the press, radio, tweets, and Twitter of *Black Swan*, everyone goes back to Darren Aronofsky's *Requiem for a Dream* as background for his film processing. However, prior to that was his *Pi*, in 1998, which is truly the real template for his filmmaking in almost every aspect. I'm not sure if a copy is available now, but anyone interested in the beginning, the real beginning, should watch this film. I still shudder when I think of it!

Rhoda Winter Russell

BEGINNING OF THE END?

Louis Black,

Re: "Page Two," Dec. 10: I love your pragmatic/left viewpoint, but you fail to grasp what is different this time. Sure, every other apocalyptic prediction has been wrong, except the one that is happening now before our eyes! Climate catastrophe is happening, ask any biologist. Species are behaving in ways consistent with a warming climate. Those who predicted many actions (ice melting, etc.) are not only being proved correct; they are shown to be too conservative in their timelines. The present political climate in the U.S., China, England, and Australia pretty much precludes any meaningful action. If this isn't the beginning of the end Have a nice day!

Tom Cuddy

Holiday Schedule

The *Chronicle* will observe the following holiday schedule:

Issues dated Dec. 24 and Dec. 31 will be distributed on their regular weekdays: Thursday, Dec. 23, and Thursday, Dec. 30.

The *Chronicle* offices will be closed for the Thursdays and Fridays dated Dec. 23 & 24 and Dec. 30 & 31.

We will resume regular business hours on Monday, Jan. 3, 2011.
Happy holidays to all!

MOSER SAVES BAMBI

Dear Mr. MacMillan Moser,

Although neither of us is glamorous or very stylish, my husband and I are ardent fans of yours and wish you wrote more for the *Chronicle*. You are a fantastic writer, and your column is the most entertaining in the whole magazine. "After a Fashion" is a much-needed balance to politics and the lefty earnestness of the rest of the editorial fare.

We wanted you to know your hilarious piece on Vajazzling ["After a Fashion," Dec. 10] has

CONTINUED ON P.8



LOOKING FOR A DATE?

You could do a lot worse than our brand spankin' new *Austin Chronicle* 2011 Calendar: Thirty Years of Coverage. In anticipation of our 30th anniversary (Sept. 4, 2011 – hey, mark the date on your new calendar), we've put together 13 of our favorite covers, along with bonus covers, the usual holidays, special Austin dates, and a few of our predictably idiosyncratic days of note. Did we mention it's free (with purchase at Waterloo Records and BookPeople)? For more info, see p.50.

It's all part of our yearlong celebration of our 30th year. See what else is up at austinchronicle.com/year30.

THE CH30NICLE THINGS
THE HIGHS, THE LOWS, THE LISTS



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THE AUSTIN CH30NICLE
LAST WEEK'S VINTAGE AD!

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once occupied South Congress Cafe's
current location at 1600 S. Congress,
just across Monroe Street from Allens Boots.
This ad ran in our second issue,
dated Sept. 18, 1981.

CAN YOU FIND THE VINTAGE AD?
MARK W. BLOUNT found last week's vintage ad and got his name in the paper! ■
MARK W. BLOUNT has also been entered in a bigger, end-of-the-year drawing for a PRIZE GRAB BAG! If you want a chance to be more like **MARK**, just locate the vintage ad in the pages of this issue and go to austinchronicle.com/contests.

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| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Sahara Smith | 12:00-2:30 |
| Cienfuegos | 3:30-6:00 |
| Jimmy LaFave | 8:00-11:00 |

Thursday 12/16

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Uncle Lucius | 12:00-2:30 |
| Kalu James | 3:30-6:00 |
| The Gourds | 8:00-11:00 |

Friday 12/17

| | |
|--|------------|
| The Marshall Ford Swing Band | 12:00-2:30 |
| Hank & Sheldri Alrich with Doug Harman | 3:30-6:00 |
| Cody Canada | 8:00-11:00 |

Saturday 12/18

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Torri Hendrix | 12:00-2:30 |
| Eliza Gilkyson | 3:30-6:00 |
| Ian McLagan & the Bump Band | 8:00-11:00 |

Sunday 12/19

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Ray Wylie Hubbard | 12:00-2:30 |
| The Derailers | 3:30-6:00 |
| The Band of Heathens | 8:00-11:00 |

Monday 12/20

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Biscuit Brothers | 12:00-2:30 |
| Mary Hattersley's Blazing Bows | 2:30-3:00 |
| Sara Hickman's Family Time Rocks | 3:30-6:00 |
| The Eggmen | 8:00-11:00 |

Tuesday 12/21

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Patricia Vonne | 12:00-2:30 |
| Suzanna Ghoefel | 3:30-6:00 |
| Marcia Ball/Ruthie Foster | 8:00-11:00 |

Wednesday 12/22

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Deadman | 12:00-2:30 |
| Albert & Gage | 3:30-6:00 |
| Asleep At the Wheel Quartet | 8:00-11:00 |

Thursday 12/23

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Hot Club of Cowtown | 12:00-2:30 |
| The Trishas | 3:30-6:00 |
| Carolyn Wonderland/Shelley King | 8:00-11:00 |

Friday 12/24

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Warren Hood | 12:00-2:30 |
| Slim Richey | 3:30-6:00 |
| Texana Dames | 8:00-11:00 |

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touched the most unlikely of folks – a hetero couple, 19 years old, way out here in the provincial hell known as Fredericksburg. My husband could not resist sharing your column with his young employee, a fifth-generation German Hill Country kid with the requisite small Texas town sensibilities. Evidently awed by the very idea of vagina jewelry, this kid rushed home to tell his girlfriend, who decided more research was in order.

The place where this curious couple surfed on their iPhones for Vajazzling? Perched in his grandfather's deer blind, rifles at ready, waiting to blast the shit out of Bambi. But the spectacle of a butterfly-shaped, bejewelled hoo-ha was more interesting than bagging a deer, so instead of taking home a carcass, they ended up with a lot of bookmarks for the "really good pictures." You have opened a window to the vast world to these kids. A window to what, however, we're not sure!

Also wanted to tell you the new thing around our house is "Don't make me tell you. Okay I will."

Thanks for a bit of holiday hilarity.

Linda DuPriest

HOW TO FIGHT BULLYING

Dear Editor,

Re: your article on anti-bullying legislation ["Strama Takes Anti-Bullying Laws to the Next Level," Newsdesk blog, Dec. 10]: We appreciate your willingness to highlight alternatives to expulsion and the role of broader school-discipline practices in preventing bullying in the first place. However, to be clear and as was stressed to the

reporter, Texans Care for Children supports many positive elements of House Bill 224, ranging from parent notification to training for parents, students, and teachers on the measures to address "cyber-bullying" and the improvements in school planning.

Our organization's key areas of policy include children's mental health, child protection, and juvenile justice. We take seriously the need both to protect children who are victims of bullying and to respond to offenders in ways that can put them on a path to better choices.

Eileen Garcia

CEO

Texans Care for Children

WHAT PERCENTAGE IS IT?

Dear Editor,

Re: "Tone Deaf" [News, Dec. 3]: Hard of hearing?

So I am to understand that 10% of Austinites are deaf? Fifty thousand to 60,000 deaf people in Austin?!

Further up the story the estimate is of 1 million deaf people in America. So am I to understand that 5% of them live here?

In general I like Jordan Smith's features, however I continue to have issues with her reporting statistics that aren't backed up by "reporting." That is checking numbers cited by sources with some other kind of source.

My guess is that if 10% of the population in Austin was deaf, the police force would have a

CONTINUED ON P.10

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

HEY THERE, BIFF! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

DON'T YOU MEAN "MERRY CHRISTMAS"? OR ARE YOU JUST ANOTHER FOOTSOLDIER IN GEORGE SOROS' GRAND SCHEME TO DESTROY CHRISTMAS?

WELL, AREN'T WE JUST BRIMMING WITH HOLIDAY SPIRIT! BEEN WATCHING FOX NEWS AGAIN, HAVE YOU?

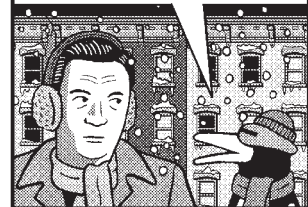


LOOK--GENERIC HOLIDAY GREETINGS ARE A GESTURE OF BASIC INCLUSIVENESS. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THIS, BUT OUR JEWISH FRIENDS--FOR EXAMPLE--DO NOT TRADITIONALLY CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF THE CHRISTIAN MESSIAH.



BUT MAYBE MORE TO THE POINT--THERE ARE TWO MAJOR HOLIDAYS COMING UP--CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S! GET IT? HOLIDAYS--PLURAL!

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Meet Heloise. She lives in Paris where she studies art history and works in a raw food restaurant. She is wearing the Wool Cape in Tan, Fisherman's Pullover in Cream, Cotton Solid Thigh-High Sock in Taupe, Wool Beret in Biscotti, and Acrylic Fingerless Glove in Black.

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Reader COMMENT of the Week

Re: Ventura's take on Obama and Palin:

"I really, really enjoy 98% of what Michael Ventura writes, but this article is so simplistic it's embarrassing. The only thing he addresses here is style. The policies Obama and Palin support and have/would have implemented are exact opposites across the board. The same person? The way a person campaigns hardly defines them. The policies they fight for day in and day out are the important part. Obama and Plain couldn't be farther from the 'same person' on policy." — kurtgonska

"Letters at 3am: The Palin-Obama Convergence," Nov. 19

very assertive policy for this population. If as I suspect it is much closer to 1% or less, would that change the story?

I feel the answer is yes. The reporting seems to imply that the "policy" or "nonpolicy" affects 10% of the population. It doesn't.

That doesn't make it right though!

Conan Witzel

REPUBLICANS BIG BABIES

Dear Editor,

The Republicans are holding everything hostage until they get their precious tax cuts for the rich: not just Don't Ask, Don't Tell, which of course you'd expect of them, but now relief funds for sick 9/11 workers. And everything

else. Everything — those babies! Folks, this is what they do. This is how they think. This is who they are. And this is what Americans voted for? There's only one word for Republican voters: stupidi-tea.

J. Andrew Smith
 Bloomfield, N.J.

TOO MUCH 'JUST SELLING'

Dear Editor,

It's a shame that when everyone wants something, the price will always be outrageous.

I'm alluding specifically to the Austin City Limits Music Festival, how profiteers buy blocks

CONTINUED ON P.12



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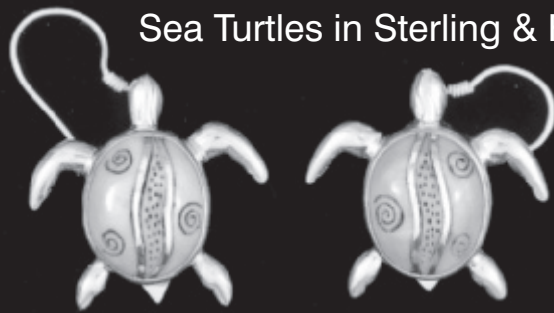
Gianmarco Conegliano
CONTINUED ON P.16

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KILL EVIL TO ACHIEVE GOAL

Dear Editor,

The realization and application of objective moral and intellectual truth is the sublime goal of a well-lived life. Foremost in achieving that goal is the insight that virulent, insidious evil in fact exists. Its behavioral parents are vanity, envy, self-pitying nihilism, hubris, and the willful id that denies these facts. What's more, the mandatory duty to fight evil is existential to human decency and civilization. And the only force that can vanquish it is consciously recognized active good, i.e., integrity, courage, gratitude, humility, and dignity.

In the postmodern world (beginning in the so called "enlightenment"), the concept of evil has been reduced to today's subjective moral and intellectual relativism, i.e., who's to judge what's really evil. Simultaneously, relativists falsely condemn those delineating behavior as good or evil as reactionary retins. As a former relativist, I strongly relate to this willful, narcissistic, ignorant

mindset. And ironically, its conscience-piercing dark nature becomes the self-realizing force to overcome it.

Sources of great wisdom from Socrates, Plato, Moses, Jesus, Cicero, Epictetus, the American founders, and many others have been profoundly consistent in explaining that evil exists because of the dimly flawed nature of humanity. To be sure, they've repeated over and over the unsalable need to subdue those flaws in order to conquer evil.

Life's short. That's natural law never to be altered. During our time we have the choice to acknowledge evil and the need to fight it or remain in the denial of pathological narcissism looking the other way. The entire Christmas season is focused on finding and perpetuating happiness. Without vanquishing evil there is zero possibility of achieving that goal. Moreover, apathy and denial of it will enable its devotees to succeed in sentencing humanity to tyrannical horror and utter misery – again and again! Merry Christmas!

Vance McDonald

Reader COMMENT of the Week

Re: A few bad apples?

"How can you people assume based on isolated incidents that the majority of APD officers are just high school bullies? Statements like that are completely ignorant and lead me to believe you must not know very many officers. Let's turn the tables, since you impute the misdeeds or mistakes of a few officers to all officers. Think about most of the citizens officers encounter on a regular basis: drug addicts, prostitutes, thugs, rapists. Based on that would it be fair for an officer to conclude that all citizens are drug addicted criminals?

"Criticize an individual officer all you want, but don't damn every police officer on the street risking their lives to protect the city. For every perceived injustice committed by an APD officer, I bet you could find scores of good things APD did that very week. What about the maniac with an AK47 in North Austin a couple months ago who killed his roommate and neighbor? An APD officer risked his life to stop that man.

"Don't make excuses for the officers who make mistakes, but no person in their right mind would assume that all or even most of APD is bad guys/girls." – Dora

"Tone Deaf," News, Dec. 3

austinchronicle.com/comments



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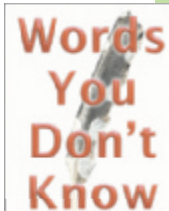


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news

Headlines

- City Council convenes today, Thursday, for its final meeting of the year to consider approval of a controversial **Water Treatment Plant No. 4**-related shaft excavation opposed by neighbors and environmental groups, a historic district designation for **Hyde Park**, the installation of 23 “**public safety cameras**” across Downtown, and more. See “This Week’s Wrap,” p.22.
- In other Orwellian news, the **Austin Regional Intelligence Center**, a “fusion center” facilitating data-sharing between the **Austin Police Department** and neighboring jurisdictions, was unveiled on Wednesday. ARIC’s mission is to “detect, prevent or interrupt” serial criminal activity, organized crime, and terrorist activity; opponents worry it constitutes an invasion of privacy. 
- On Monday, CNN analyst **Paul Begala** compared **Sarah Palin’s** half-term as Alaska governor to **Lee Leffingwell’s** mayoral tenure, saying (somewhat inaccurately), “Lee Leffingwell’s been the mayor of Austin for about as long as Sarah Palin was governor of Alaska, but nobody is saying that Lee Leffingwell ought to be president.” In a blog post, Leffingwell noted “intense desire among a strong majority of Americans for my leadership in Washington,” but lamented that his VP pick, **Eddie Wilson** of Threadgill’s, “would prefer to spend all eternity eating Swanson’s frozen TV dinners and watching reruns of *Family Matters*.”
- Travis County aims to purchase a key Downtown block owned by the **Austin Museum of Art**, which has had a series of unsuccessful attempts to turn dirt on a new museum. County commissioners voted Tuesday to pay \$21.7 million for the lot south of Republic Square Park to build a new **civil courthouse**. See “Naked City,” p.20.
- Ninety-nine ... 100 ... 101. On Dec. 14, Democratic state Reps. **Allan Ritter** of Nederland and **Aaron Peña** of Edinburg announced their decisions to jump ship and join the Republicans. With **John Kuempel** winning the seat of his deceased father, **Edmund Kuempel**, for the GOP in a special election, the GOP now has a 101-seat supermajority in the Texas House. See “The GOP’s New Crowded House,” p.24.
- A Travis County court this week sentenced disgraced former state Rep. **Kino Flores** to five years’ probation for multiple counts of tampering with government records and perjury. County prosecutors had requested jail time for the corrupt ex-politician, nicknamed “Mr. Ten Percent.”
- Robert Rodriguez’s **Machete** won’t be receiving \$1.75 million in state production incentives because the film allegedly portrays Texas in a negative light. Cue the dramatic irony: Gov. Rick Perry signed the latest version of the incentive bill at Austin’s Troublemaker Studios, where Rodriguez made the movie. See “Film Flam,” Screens, p.47.
- Responding to ultradry weather conditions, Travis County commissioners on Tuesday ordered a **ban on outdoor burning** in unincorporated areas of the county.
- At press time, state lawyers were arguing before the 3rd Court of Appeals that the **divorce of a gay couple**, Angelique Naylor and Sabina Daly, granted by Travis County Judge **Scott Jenkins**, contradicts the state’s ban on gay marriage. The judges hearing the case seem skeptical the state has standing to intervene. More next week.



JOHN ANDERSON

This may look like an old-fashioned tent revival meeting – sans the tent – but it’s actually a groundbreaking celebration of a solar farm in northeastern Travis County. The RRE Austin Solar project, or the “Pflugerville Solar Farm,” is the largest solar project in the U.S., according to local business honchos.

Call Them Irresponsible

‘Statesman’ editors contribute to journalism ... by attacking honest journalists

BY MICHAEL KING

Note to the *Statesman* editors: When you’re about to condescendingly lecture another media outlet – not to mention your endlessly abused readers – on the nature of journalistic responsibility, shouldn’t you take the minimal trouble required to make certain the central premise of your homily is accurate?

It appears the answer is no.

Tuesday’s *Statesman* featured a thoroughly pompous editorial (“WikiLeaks fails responsibility test”) on the alleged responsibility of journalists to make certain that anything they publish has been subjected to “measured, careful decisions about what we publish and what we don’t.” After congratulating the independent website WikiLeaks for its “ability to procure documents the U.S. government seeks to keep secret,” the editorial goes on to denounce the organization for what it supposedly does “post-procurement.” “What it does is publish them – all of them – on its website,” the editors report. “This seems to be done without a critical eye toward whether any of them carry the potential to endanger entire nations or specific people.”

What an “irresponsible” act that might be – if it were true. Unfortunately for the *Statesman* editors, it

is quite false, as the editorial writers might have determined by an even cursory check of the website itself or – if that proved too burdensome or terrifying – by reading their own newspaper. For example, on Dec. 3, the *Statesman* published an Associated Press story (“WikiLeaks, 5 major newspapers collaborate”), which reported, “Unlike the earlier disclosures by WikiLeaks of tens of thousands of secret government military records [in fact, only its first release of Afghanistan documents], the website is releasing only a trickle of documents at a time from a trove of a quarter-million, and only after considering advice from five news organizations with which it chose to share all of the material.” Among those five is *The New York Times*, a frequent *Statesman* originator for stories and presumably a source that the editorial claims has “shown an ability to make prudent decisions concerning sensitive information.”

On Wednesday – having been called on their misrepresentation by several readers (including me) – the editors published a supposed correction (“Indiscriminate disclosure has flaws”) that was little more than an excuse to take another shot at WikiLeaks,

CONTINUED ON P.21

QUOTE of the WEEK



“This Aaron Peña is not the Aaron Peña I know.”

– State Rep. Pete Gallego, responding to Peña’s flip to the Republican Party. See “The GOP’s New Crowded House,” p.24.

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Naked City

► **CIVIL COURTHOUSE FINDS NEW HOME** Travis County commissioners voted Tuesday to buy a plot of Downtown land for development of a new civil courthouse. Owned by the Austin Museum of Art, the tract, at Fourth and Guadalupe, just south of Republic Square Park, is currently just a parking lot – but it comes with a \$21 million price tag, according to county officials. The historic 1931 **Heman Marion Sweatt** courthouse building, which once housed all branches of county government, has long been over capacity, and by 2035, the county estimates that the civil courts alone will need more than 188,000 square feet – much more than the 50,000 square feet they occupy now. A new building would incorporate other uses as well, including a dispute resolution center and child care for families involved in Child Protective Services and/or divorce cases. (Currently, said Commissioner **Sarah Eckhardt**, “warring parties” must sit in the hallways on benches – not an ideal situation.) The facility – to be completed within the next decade – will be part of the county’s multiphase **Central Campus Master Plan** in Austin’s central business district. Now is the right time to buy, said Eckhardt, while interest rates are low and “before every available [Downtown] block is spoken for.” The county also plans to restore the Heman Sweatt courthouse, including the original jail facility on the top floors, commonly referred to as “Alcatraz”; that space would be used as the county’s history center. – *Jordan Smith*

► **FORMULA ONE PONIES UP** The first Austin Grand Prix won’t take place until 2012, but the construction crew could be starting its engines soon. On Dec. 14, **Formula One United States** confirmed that **Austin Commercial** will serve as the general contractor for the project. The firm, which has done several local projects including the new W Hotel on Second Street, joins German track designers Tilke GmbH and Dallas-based architects HKS Inc. That same day, the project passed a major permitting process hurdle, as Travis County commissioners voted 4-1 to approve a flood plain variance (Margaret Gómez was the sole nay). Since floodplain maps for the area are still under review, the variance depends on the developers receiving a Conditional Letter of Map Revision from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. While that letter is pending and the project waits for a separate flood plain permit from the Army Corps of Engineers, the developers will file a \$921,000 surety with the county. If FEMA issues the CLOMR within six months, the developers get the money back; if not, then the bond will be used to return the area to its original condition. Project attorney **Richard Suttle** said he’s confident they’ll be getting the money back, as “CLOMRs are the kind of thing where it’s not *if* it’s issued, but *when*.” The sticking point now is transportation. County staff want the developers to contribute up to \$6 million to upgrade the main access route down Erloy Road and the bridge crossing Dry Creek. Suttle told the commissioners they would be happy to enter into discussions but raised the possibility of a public financing district to cover the costs. – *Richard Whittaker*

► **DEATH DIVE** Death sentences in Texas courts dropped to a new low in 2010, with just eight sentences handed down, according to the annual “Texas Death Penalty Developments” report put together by the **Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty**. Death sentences have dropped more than 70% since 2003, according to the report, and since 2007, only 21 of the state’s 254 counties have imposed them. Of the 43 sentences imposed between 2007 and 2010, Dallas County leads the pack with seven, followed by Harris County with six. To read the entire report, see “Down on Death” at austinchronicle.com/newsdesk. – *J.S.*

NEWS

NEW LEASE ON QUALITY OF LIFE

Will we leave African-Americans waiting for a super plan?

BY WELLS DUNBAR

It was easy to miss the recommendations from the **African American Resource Advisory Commission** during last City Council meeting. Punted from council’s Dec. 9 meeting to Dec. 16, it didn’t garner half the ink of either the **Marshall Apartments** controversy or a preliminary discussion about our new **central library**. Hell, the Hustle wasn’t even in chambers. (Blame our weekly News staff meeting. Seeing as how we hit the streets the same day council convenes, something’s got to give – so let’s move council meetings to Wednesdays.)

That’s a shame, because it’s hard to imagine a topic deserving of deeper attention. And the commission’s findings should be attention-grabbing: While Austin’s black community continues to shrink, opportunities are coming fewer and farther between for those who stay here. “The Hispanic population has increased by 75,300. The Asian population has increased, but the black population has decreased,” said Austin NAACP President **Nelson Linder**, comparing census data from 2000 against 2010 estimates. “We’re the only group that has decreased in population.” And while African-American family income has risen somewhat (10.6%, compared to a 30.8% rise in Anglo wages – while Hispanic income has fallen by 6.4%), “the greatest concern in the entire study,” said Linder, is the black unemployment rate. In 2000, he said, “we had an unemployment rate in the city at about 4.4 percent. African-Americans were 7.9 percent. Today, African-Americans stand at a 15.3 percent unemployment rate. That’s 15.3 percent. The overall rate for the city is 7.3 percent. That disparity has actually increased.” It should serve as a wake-up call that despite all of Austin’s accolades as a comparatively recession-proof city, that prosperity hasn’t applied to everyone.

The commission emerged from the city’s **African American Quality of Life Initiative**, which in turn was prompted by the 2005 **Midtown Live** firestorm in which a handful of police officers and firefighters made jokes and cheered as the popular African-American haunt (and persistent source of police calls) burnt down. The Quality of Life Initiative featured 56 recommendations organized into six categories, addressing issues from cultural arts to police training. And while some have been adopted, our city’s occasional race-related freak-outs – like 2009’s citywide cold shoulder to the **Texas Relays**, which treated visiting African-Americans like felons, not tourists – illustrate how much work still remains.

The commission had a few recommendations of its own: creating job training programs for non-college-bound students, diversifying the occupations and industries recruited to Austin by city incentives (both of which would be a boon to the city in general, as well), and asking council to create a task force to address issues raised by the community.

Some of those issues – business development, youth programs and mentoring, continuing education, and job training –



JOHN ANDERSON

Nelson Linder

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may be addressed through an initiative Mayor **Lee Leffingwell** announced at the end of the presentation. He said the city, along with the county, Austin Independent School District, and others, is working to bring an outpost of the **Manchester Bidwell project** here. Founded by **Bill Strickland**, the project includes the Manchester Craftsmen’s Guild, which provides art, education, music, and design training for at-risk students in Pittsburgh, and the Bidwell Training Center, which offers occupational associates degrees and job placement.

Strickland is a MacArthur “genius” grant recipient, and he recently appeared in controversial charter-schools doc *Waiting for ‘Superman.’* Moreover, according to former Delta pilot Leffingwell, “he’s an ex-airline pilot, so we had several things in common. But he is the kind of man that makes things like this work, and I’m very confident he will make it work here in Austin.”

The mayor was light on other details – including what iteration of the project would arrive here in Austin – other than to say it would be under way in a year to 18 months, and that it’s “a program that has demonstrated success in dealing with at-risk youth, unemployment, excellence in education, and workplace issues.”

Linder lauded the program’s success, but noted that, oftentimes, “in those kinds of programs, money comes down to the top people, and never gets to the community. So I would challenge you to make sure when the money comes down, you go out and find folks to do the work and make sure you fund them first. You typically bring in the intellectuals – there’s nothing wrong with intellectuals – but let’s make sure the money gets to the proper source.

“Historically, not just you,” he told council, “but America does a poor job of giving folks the chance to solve their own problems. If the money is there, these are very bright folks. Let them solve their own problems. I think you might find a much better result.” ■

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FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE **COMMUNITY LISTINGS**, P.58.

THURSDAY 16

GREEN HOLIDAY PARTY Hobnob with local enviro orgs. 5:30-9:30pm. Fiesta Gardens, 2100 Jesse E. Segovia, 480-8318. \$30 (\$20, members).

HEALTH CARE REFORM & YOU Experts translate governmental jargon into answers about your coverage and the new law. 6:30-9pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 250-1043. Free.

FRIDAY 17

DEADLINE: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION INPUT Public comment on roadway expansions, bikeways, and other transit projects affected by proposed changes to regional transportation plans ends at 5pm. See www.surveymonkey.com/s/plantipoct2010.

DRIVE ELECTRIC TOUR Take a test drive of Nissan’s new electric car – the Leaf – and learn more about the technology behind this step in automotive evolution. *Fri-Sun., Dec. 17-19. The Domain, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace, 795-4230.*

PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CAMPUS OPENING Tour the shooting range, “burn building,” outdoor training areas, SWAT obstacle course, driving track, and more at this open house. 10am. Public Safety Training Campus, 4800 Shaw. Free.

SATURDAY 18

CITY EMPLOYEES ARE ARTISTS, TOO The people who run our city do more than just shuffle paper – they draw on it, too. Check out artwork

made by city employees – including City Manager **Marc Ott** – at this exhibit hosted by **VSA Texas**. 2-4pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River.

FUKUOKA’S NATURAL FARMING METHODS Learn about these innovative permaculture techniques in a presentation from **Ethan Rainwater**. 2:30-4:30pm. Habitat Suites Hotel, 500 E. Highland Mall Blvd. \$5 suggested donation.

WILLOWBROOK REACH WORKDAY This neighborhood greenbelt is in the first stages of restoration and needs your help mulching and removing invasive plants. Come dressed to work; bring shovels and rakes if you got ‘em. 9am-1pm. Sycamore & Half Penny. For details, e-mail permit5000@gmail.com.

SUNDAY 19

RECYCLING SCREENING & CONVERSATION A discussion with folks from **Ecology Action** follows a short film on the life cycle of an average – but riveting – grocery bag. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

MONDAY 20

ENERGY-EFFICIENT APPLIANCES REBATE Monday is the first day you can purchase qualifying appliances for the state’s **Appliance Mail-In Rebate Program** – but before you apply for the rebate, you must first install the new and recycle the old. Rebates are granted on a first-postmarked, first-served basis, so the time to start is, er, now.

with an outdated quote from anti-secrecy advocate Steven Aftergood condemning WikiLeaks as among the “enemies of open society.” Aftergood’s June statement preceded by several months the WikiLeaks publication of the diplomatic cables the editorial was actually addressing, and the editors somehow missed Aftergood’s later statement (to *Foreign Policy*) concerning the redacted release of Iraq war documents: “Wikileaks itself has acknowledged the necessity of withholding certain portions of the documents that might endanger individuals who are named in them.”

Hypocritical Foolishness

As of Wednesday morning, the WikiLeaks site had published 1,532 of the 251,287 diplomatic cables made available to it by unidentified sources; that’s roughly an “indiscriminate” 0.6% of the total. As AP reported (in the *Statesman*) and the WikiLeaks site confirms, specific cables have been released primarily in relation to stories published about them in one or another of the organization’s media partners. WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange told the British *Guardian* (as repeated in the Dec. 3 *Statesman*): “The cables we have released correspond to stories released by our mainstream media partners and ourselves. They have been redacted by the journalists working on the stories The redactions are then reviewed by at least one other journalist or editor, and we review samples supplied by the other organizations to make sure the process is working.”

Whatever else one might say about this process, it corresponds in every detail to the “responsible” process the *Statesman* editors fulsomely praise in “the mainstream media”; unsurprisingly so, since it is being performed by the same major newspapers (in the U.S., England, Spain, France, and Germany) that the local daily relies on for so much of its wire service copy. The *Statesman* holding its editorial nose at WikiLeaks is hypocritical, silly, and, frankly, perpetuating a falsehood.

Journalists and Criminals

Aside from the flagrantly irresponsible *Statesman* charges against WikiLeaks, it’s amusing to document just how badly the editors do their research. For regular readers of our monopoly daily, the question further arises whether people so demonstrably incom-

petent should be trusted to report to us, as they put it, “what is going on, especially what is going on among the people who spend your tax dollars.” Instead it should run this editorial through their PolitiFact meat-grinder and have it officially declared “Pants on Fire.”

But editorial incompetence is the least of it. Among many other things, WikiLeaks has documented thousands of unacknowledged civilian deaths in Iraq; U.S. military indifference to torture by its allies; massive corruption in Afghanistan; a secret, illegal U.S. war in Yemen; and a multistate campaign for war against Iran — all revelations that should be the *responsible* obligation of public journalism. As a consequence, the organization has been attacked as “treasonous” and “terrorist,” had its Internet access and finances officially undermined, been threatened with prosecution in various hysterical forms, and — in what ought to cause at least a raised eyebrow of empathy among alleged journalists — been subjected to explicit threats of assassination by officials and other public figures here and abroad.

Meanwhile, for a decade, the U.S. government has engaged in two undeclared and illegal wars (and illegal covert war elsewhere); its officials have been directly implicated in criminal deception to promote those wars involving the slaughter of thousands and the devastation of entire nations; those officials have advocated and enabled widespread torture in violation of national and international law — all without an effective whisper of potential prosecution or even serious investigation, and with certainly nothing of that “irresponsible” implication emanating from the “measured, careful” and “prudent” mainstream media.

What is the contribution of the *Statesman* editors to this ongoing international situation of enormous consequence? A flagrant misrepresentation of the actions of WikiLeaks, a prissy defense of government secrecy and media collaboration with that secrecy, and a whiny presumption that only the “mainstream media” is sufficiently thoughtful and prudent to review information and make the “measured, careful” decisions concerning what is suitable for the rest of us to read or know.

Thanks, but I’ll take my chances with the folks at WikiLeaks, who haven’t yet forgotten what it means to be a responsible news source. ■

DEADLINE: AUSTIN ENERGY LOANS/REBATES

Monday is the last day to cash in on AE’s zero-interest loans and rebates for home energy efficiency improvements.

TUESDAY 21

GRASSROOTS ACTION IN THE CLIMATE MOVEMENT Learn about the growing number of upstart orgs fighting the good fight against big oil and big coal. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

ONGOING

AUSTIN DOWNTOWN PLAN Recommendations on improvements related to historic preservation, density, transportation, and other Downtown

issues are currently making their way through city boards and commissions before they go to council for a vote; check them out for yourself at www.cityofaustin.org/downtown.

FREE SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES Emancipet is partnering with the city to provide free rabies shots, collars/tags, microchipping, and spay/neuter surgeries for dogs and cats from local ZIP codes ending in 01, 02, 21, 23, 24, 41, 44, 45, 53, and 58. Emancipet clinic, 7201 Levander Loop. For details/appointments: 587-7729.

HOLIDAY HOUNDS & CATS Town Lake Animal Center has dropped its adoption fee to \$35 this month, so there’s no reason not to bring a new companion home for the holidays. Through Dec. 31. TLAC, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez.

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White Egret Farm: Waiting on a Thanksgiving Turkey

White Egret Farm, on Webberville Road just outside city limits, is best known for its organic food products, especially goat's milk cheese and other natural dairy and meat products. However, the farm and its owner, **Lee Dexter**, also seem to be earning a reputation for stiffing their workers out of wages owed, in a pattern apparently stretching back quite a few years. Matters may come to a head next month in a felony theft-of-service charge brought against Dexter by Travis County on behalf of **Florentino Andres**, who says Dexter still owes him \$475 for a week's work – five days, 12 hours a day – in the 2008 Thanksgiving rush, for which he was promised \$8 an hour.

Last year, the **Workers Defense Project** intervened on Andres' behalf, sending a demand letter to Dexter and asking to resolve the matter by negotiation. That never happened, and the amount in dispute was sufficient to get Dexter popped on a felony charge, on which she is scheduled for trial in January (following several postponements, most recently last week). The WDP says that Dexter's failure to pay Andres is only one of many similar wage-theft disputes with White Egret, and a public records search suggests a decade-long pattern of related problems. Texas Workforce Commission records reflect 20 nonpayment claims against Dexter, stretching from 2001 to last year, although 14 have since been paid in full and four were dismissed. And in 2005, a group of 10 workers won a federal Fair Labor Standards Act judgment against Dexter and the farm in amounts ranging from \$549 to \$22,800 – \$81,000 in all – and **Bill Beardall** of the **Equal Justice Center**, which represented the workers in that case, says that the judgment remains unpaid. Beardall says a subsequent mediation made no effective progress: "They still have a judgment; it's still pending; they're still attempting to collect the judgment."



Lee Dexter in 2001

Dexter's attorney, **Bill Malone Jr.**, traced Dexter's financial difficulties to a strenuous battle with the Texas Department of Health stretching back to 1999, involving disputes over the sale of unpasteurized cheese and alleged regulatory harassment; Dexter's lawsuit against TDH was settled in 2004 (see "TDH Cuts the Egret's Cheese," Nov. 30, 2001), and she continues selling her products. "Sometimes when you take a body blow," said Malone, "it takes a while to get over it." Nevertheless, Malone insisted Dexter is not guilty of the wage-theft charge, adding that the farm depends heavily upon good relations with reliable employees. "It would be self-destructive to have a pattern of having workers out there and not paying. ... There are plenty of workers who have been paid in full and have not complained."

Beardall pointed out that it's not really in the interest of the workers to force Dexter out of business and that they have tried to work out some kind of accommodation. But he also noted: "There is a point at which, if a business requires cheating its workers in order to continue to operate – that that is essentially part of its business model – then it should not be in business, because it only continues to do more harm to more workers."

– Michael King

Cap Metro Changes: 'Lipstick on a Pig'

Activists for people with disabilities are still trying to put the brakes on already-approved plans for changes to Capital Metro's **paratransit service** (van and car rides for those who cannot use regular bus service). Although the board has given the thumbs-up to what the agency calls "difficult decisions," Cap Metro still must update its **Americans With Disabilities Act** plan with the Federal Transit Administration. People with disabilities have been using legally required public meetings and hearings to blast the changes, most of which don't have a firm start date set.

"The presentation made today was very nice, very professional," **Carlos Aleman**, who is blind, told the board at its Dec. 8 meeting. "But to me, it's just like putting lipstick on a pig. It's still a pig. And the pig is that we're getting cut."

Among the new policies are an eligibility and appeals process that will require in-person interviews and assessments with Cap Metro rather than just certification by a medical professional; a strict limitation of the service for trips starting and ending within three-quarters of a mile of a regular bus service (Cap Metro used to offer rides anywhere in its service area); a wider time frame in which customers must be ready to be picked up, which people with disabilities argue makes traveling more difficult; and a reduction in hours for the call center that takes reservations. Additionally, paratransit fares are going up.

As in previous meetings, the agency was blasted for the money spent on creating commuter rail service that thus far has been lightly used, while making cuts to other services and raising fares for those services while lowering rail fares.

"You've gone up on the fares for us," said **Katherine Rutledge**. "And I think that is to offset the losses that are being taken by light rail. ... And yet you're coming down on the fare for the light rail. It's a boondoggle, and I don't know why Capital Metro doesn't just admit it, cut their losses, and stop it when the people are not riding."

Board Chair **Mike Martinez** said the board could potentially vote on the ADA document at its Jan. 26 meeting. At last week's meeting, the board approved a new fare policy, outlining the process the board must go through before changing its rates, and added new bus service for **Cedar Park**, pending approval by the Cedar Park City Council.

Among other stipulations, the new policy says, "To be equitable, fares should take into account the socioeconomic make up of our customers and their utilization of the different types of services" and "perform a fare equity analysis to assess effects of proposed fare change on riders and describe actions to avoid, minimize or mitigate such effects," while also "consider[ing] the financial impact setting or restructuring fares has on the long term sustainability of Capital Metro."

The new Cedar Park line, Route 214 – if approved by the Cedar Park City Council on Dec. 16 – will mark Cap Metro's first return to that city since it withdrew from Capital Metro in 1998. It will be a "flex" route, meaning it can sometimes deviate from its set route to accommodate passengers. Because Cedar Park cannot legally increase its sales tax rate to join Cap Metro's taxing district, the service will be funded through an interlocal agreement that would pay Cap Metro \$116,858. The agreement would run from Jan. 18, 2011, to Jan. 14, 2012. – Lee Nichols

The Fine Print of Library Construction

Chatter surrounded construction of a **new central library** at last week's development-heavy meeting of the City Council. At issue was the adoption of the Architectural Building Program for the facility, slated next to the **Seaholm Power Plant's** iconic towers. The program delineates uses and amenities in the new building, including meeting spaces, a cafe, indoor/outdoor areas, and more. Voters approved \$90 million in bonds to build it in 2006, but construction is estimated at \$120 million, with the city hoping to make up the difference by issuing \$15 million in "contractual obligation" debt, reallocating \$10 million from Block 21 sales, and other means. "I want to state, contrary to some reports in the media, we did not decide at the last minute to increase the bond appropriated amount for this library," said Mayor **Lee Leffingwell**, speaking to recent controversy regarding cost. "It was always contemplated that we would need to raise this additional \$30 million and add to that \$90 million."

In other news from that meeting, council unanimously approved an economic incentives package for Delaware-based solar energy firm **SunPower**, paying \$233 for every job created and held during the term of the agreement – up to about \$900,000. Also, \$2.5 million in bond funding went to the **Marshall Apartments** rehab project (see "The 12th of Never," p.28), and the controversial **Park planned unit development** along Barton Springs was postponed until Jan. 13.

THIS WEEK'S WRAP:

Council convenes Thursday, Dec. 16, for its final meeting of the year, and with a dense 98-item agenda, they're going out on if not a high note, then at least a long one.

- Items 18-20 constitute, according to agenda backup, a "set of Council actions that, taken together, will create a district-wide parking plan for the **2nd Street Retail District**" – by letting everyone there park at City Hall. It keeps the agreement with AMLI allowing Second Street shoppers City Hall parking privileges and creates agreements with new patrons, including the W building, for spots (including reimbursement to the city).
- More ominous Downtown action: Item 32 leverages \$250,000 from the Downtown Austin Alliance against federal dollars to place 23 "**public safety cameras**" throughout Downtown.
- Item 23 adopts the city's program for the upcoming Texas legislative session, while Item 67, from **Mike Martinez** and **Chris Riley**, supports the session's House Bill 212, a bill from Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez** which cracks down on usurious payday and auto-title loans.
- On the zoning agenda, we see not just second and third reading and potential approval of a **local historic district** for Hyde Park (Item 93), but also the return of the tortured **Bradford-Nohra** historic zoning case (Item 92; see "The Daily Hustle: 10/25/10"). Staff doesn't recommend historic zoning, while the **Historic Landmark Commission** does.
- And making sure no one goes home early, Item 98 is a public hearing and vote on whether to proceed in excavating a retrieval shaft for one of **Water Treatment Plant No. 4's** underground transmission lines – a proposal vehemently opposed by Spicewood Springs neighbors opposite the proposed shaft.

– Wells Dunbar

For an expanded agenda preview and reports from the council meeting, see "The Daily Hustle" at austinchronicle.com/hustle.

Meet the Police Monitor Finalists

A public meeting last week gave the community a chance to meet the four final candidates for Austin's next police monitor. City Manager Marc Ott is expected to make a final decision later this month. Here's a brief sketch of what each candidate had to say during the meeting; for a more in-depth report, see "Choose Your Monitor: The Four Finalists" at austinchronicle.com/newsdesk.

— Jordan Smith

CRISTINA BEAMUD

"If Austin residents are focused on issues regarding the police use-of-force policy, if that's where the focus is, it would be good for the police monitor to address those issues."

- Beamud currently serves as executive director of the city of Atlanta Citizen Review Board (September 2008 to present).

- Previously, Beamud served for two years as the city of Eugene, Ore., police auditor (October 2006 to September 2008). Before that, she was a legal advisor to the police chief in Cambridge, Mass., and she began her career in 1976 as a Rochester, N.Y., police officer.



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

- Beamud says she's interested in coming to Austin in part because she believes there is good support here for police oversight. She also says that as an out-of-town-er she would first focus on outreach and learning about the community.



MARGO FRASIER

"I spent the last 36 years of my life getting ready to hold this position."

- Frasier has 36 years of law enforcement experience — including seven years as the elected Travis County sheriff. She's also a lawyer who has worked as an instructor at Sam Houston State University and who began her career as a correctional officer while in college.

- Frasier says that, given her experience as sheriff, with "evaluating police conduct," she would be uniquely positioned to oversee complaints and investigations involving the conduct of Austin Police.

- Frasier says the monitor's office needs to be more accommodating to individuals seeking to make a complaint and has suggested that later business hours or staying open one Saturday per month might help make the office more "user-friendly."

ANN DEL LLANO

"I've always been a police lover, up to today. I wouldn't give my time to make [the department] better if I didn't love it."

- Del Llano was a member of the Police Oversight Focus Group, which led the charge to create police oversight in Austin. She now works as a family law attorney but has spent the last decade working on criminal justice reforms at the Capitol and as a volunteer, and then contractor, with the ACLU.

- Del Llano says the office needs to focus more of its energy on researching and making policy recommendations. One of the things that has motivated her to apply for



the job now, she says, is the opportunity to have a seat at the bargaining table during meet-and-confer negotiations between the city and the police union.



RENITA SANDERS

"You can count on me to continue doing what I'm doing, and I'll take it to the next level."

- Sanders has served as one of Austin's assistant police monitors since October 2007. Before that, Sanders worked as a regulatory analyst and human resources professional for the Lower Colorado River Authority (June 2002-September 2007).

- Sanders says she believes the monitor's office is doing well and that community outreach remains a focus for her. She's a licensed mediator and says she'd like to see the office start a program to mediate complaints between residents and officers, which the office already has the authority to do.

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The GOP's New Crowded House

Remember that old saying about ruling in Hell rather than serving in Heaven? Texas Democrats are left wondering which side of that equation Reps. **Allan Ritter** of Nederland and **Aaron Peña** of Edinburg are on after the pair announced their defection to the Republican Party on Tuesday.

The switch means that the already huge Republican majority in the House – which stood at 99 before Ritter's announcement – becomes a 101-seat supermajority. If Republicans can remain unified on the House floor, it gives them the numbers to cram pretty much any legislation, including constitutional amendments, through the House. Democrats had thought the recount victory by 12 votes of Austin Rep. **Donna Howard** could keep them safe – see “Republicans Denied a Supermajority (Again),” Dec. 10 – but this week's party-flips made that a short-lived victory.

Explaining his decision in a brief statement, Ritter said he wasn't making the switch because of any major personal change of heart but simply “in order to best reflect the views of the majority of the people of District 21.” Citing his discontent with the Democratic Party leadership, Peña described his consideration of a jump as pragmatic: With Republicans sitting on a massive majori-

ty, it would be easier to get a seat at the committee table with an “R” next to his name. “If you don't have a seat at the table, you may be on the menu,” he said Tuesday. Both members denied that any promises about committee appointments or other quid pro quos had been made in exchange for their new allegiance.

Texas Democratic Party Chair **Boyd Richie** fired back, saying that if the representatives are so certain their districts are Republican strongholds, they should step down and run under the GOP banner in a special election. As for Peña's argument that he was simply representing the Hispanic community in South Texas, Richie replied, “The Texas Republican version of ‘Hispanic outreach’ amounts to reaching out to self-serving politicians like Aaron Peña while reaching into communities to take away economic and educational opportunity.”

However, Ritter's and Peña's announcements weren't that surprising. Ritter, who filed paperwork to run as House speaker when the House was a more balanced 76-74 in 2008 (see “Let the Race Begin,” Nov. 14, 2008), faces a rough redistricting in the next session. With East Texas accounting for a decreasing percentage of the state population, that means it's likely to be allotted

Former Democratic Reps. Aaron Peña and Allan Ritter are swallowed up by the state Republican leadership, including Gov. Rick Perry (l), Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst (r), and Attorney General Greg Abbott (foreground).



RICHARD WHITTAKER

fewer House seats for the 2012 elections. The redrawing of district lines could see Ritter's seat reconfigured, or it could disappear from the electoral map altogether. Peña may represent solidly Democratic Hidalgo County, but he was one of the staunchest and most unrepentant Democratic supporters of former Speaker **Tom Craddick**, R-Midland.

It's uncertain exactly which House GOP Ritter and Peña have joined. The fringe right of the Republican caucus has started an open

and bloody civil war against Speaker **Joe Straus**, whom they've painted as a pro-abortion moderate. The establishment conservatives have thrown their backing behind Rep. **Warren Chisum**, R-Pampa, while Rep. **Ken Paxton**, R-McKinney, has picked up a lot of tea party momentum both inside and outside the House. However, there's also been widespread distaste over attacks on Straus, Texas' first Jewish speaker, which have smacked of anti-Semitism. Both Paxton and Chisum have pub-

Opiate Overdoses on the Rise

There is little doubt that dying of an opiate overdose is excruciating: The drug – found in heroin or any number of prescription drugs, including OxyContin and Vicodin – attaches to receptors in the brain that regulate breathing, blocking their ability to tell the body to inhale and exhale. “It's a slow process where the body completely loses its ability to tell itself to breathe,” says **Meghan Ralston**, harm-reduction coordinator for the **Drug Policy Alliance**. “It's slow, it's agonizing, and it's ghastly.”

It's also largely preventable. Nonetheless, in Texas, opiate-related overdose deaths have increased 150% between 1999 and 2007 according to a recent report from the DPA. That's part of a national trend: In 2005, the second leading cause of death in the U.S. – behind motor vehicle accidents – was accidental overdose, which claimed 22,448 lives. The increase in deaths, around the country and in Texas, is driven primarily by prescription medicine overdoses. The number of cocaine and heroin deaths isn't increasing at anywhere near the same pace, says **Grant Smith**, DPA's federal policy coordinator.

In Travis County, deaths due to overdose have also increased, from 60 in 2005 to 100 in 2009, according to records from the **Travis County Medical Examiner's Office**. (There were 61 in the first nine months of this year,

according to ME records.) In 2005, heroin and prescription drugs accounted for 12 of those overdose deaths, while in 2009, they accounted for 48.

“There are several things that are happening that are contributing to this,” says Smith, and they could all be fixed easily with a change in focus: Drug use should be handled primarily as an issue of public health, not law enforcement. Advocates say the tools to reverse the trend are relatively simple to implement, if there's a will to do so.

Part of the problem – and key to reversing it – is a lack of government-led harm-reduction education. The public – including teens and young adults, who have been provided little information about drugs beyond “just say no” – needs to learn how to spot the signs of overdose and how to help. And advocates say many more deaths could be prevented by more widespread use of the so-called “overdose drug,” commonly known by the name **naloxone**. It's been in use for 40 years – primarily in emergency rooms and by paramedics – and can reverse an overdose within 90 seconds by blocking opiates from attaching to brain receptors. (Austin paramedics regularly use naloxone, says EMS spokesman **Warren Hassinger**; however, Hassinger had not yet responded to a request for information about how frequently the drug is used.)

Harm-reduction groups began using the drug in earnest in the Nineties, mostly in large East Coast cities, in response to an uptick in heroin deaths; they saw great success, says Smith. But to date, the drug has not caught on as a regularly prescribed medication for individuals who use opiates for pain and are at higher risk for overdose. In part, doctors have been hesitant to prescribe a drug for a patient when a person other than the patient is likely to have to administer it, says Ralston. Advocates and researchers have been pushing for the federal **Food and Drug Administration** to take steps to make the drug available over-the-counter, but to date those efforts “have largely been unsuccessful,” he says. “But there's a great deal of potential” for the drug to reduce preventable deaths, he says.

NO GOOD SAMARITANS

Also key to the problem – and to fixing it – is the lack of so-called “**Good Samaritan laws**,” which protect individuals from facing jail or prison time for simple drug possession or intoxication. As it stands, family members or friends – who often may be using drugs with the individual who is overdosing – face criminal charges if they take the chance and call 911 for help with an overdose. That's exactly what happened to 29-year-old **Kristin Metz**, who was handed

10 years in prison for the death of her friend **Stevie May**, whom Metz injected with heroin at May's request. May overdosed and died in Metz's McKinney apartment; when the police arrived, they arrested her. Meanwhile, the dealer who sold them the drug received only minimal jail time followed by probation. Stories like Metz's are not uncommon and have a negative effect on reducing overdose deaths, says Ralston. “It's just really chilling that this kind of thing is happening,” she says.

Two states, New Mexico and Washington, have passed Good Samaritan laws, and dozens of colleges and universities have also adopted such policies, including the University of Texas.

Universities “have been on the vanguard of this issue for years and years,” she says, which makes “perfect sense, if from nothing else than a liability standpoint.”

Still, there's been some opposition – typically from law enforcement and lawmakers responding to old drug-war thinking that such measures are soft on drugs. Texas lawmakers have put forth this argument year after year in opposition to legalizing **needle exchange**, another cost-effective way to reduce drug-related harm to public health. The attitude of law enforcement, Ralston says, is simple: “What do you mean we can't arrest a person for simple drug possession?”

reefer
MADNESS

There's also the question of where these defections place Ritter and Peña for the 2012 elections. While their decisions are based in part on the GOP having a large freshman class heavy on conservatives, the new reps have yet to prove they can do anything other than win a seat in a Republican high-water year. With tea party activists already threatening to remove Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison** for being a RINO (Republican in name only) and Democrats already sounding out candidates for 2012, the long-term political health of Democratic Party switchers may not be so rosy. — *Richard Whittaker*

Fit To No-Kill?

On Tuesday, the fifth and final candidate for the city's chief animal services officer position, **Abigail Smith**, faced the firing squad that is the Austin animal-rights community and lived to tell the tale. It probably helped that Smith has nearly four years' experience running a "no-kill" animal shelter. Remember, in March, animal rights activists convinced City Council to approve an ordinance making Austin a no-kill city and directing staff to figure out how to make that happen by September 2011. Asked on Tuesday how she would manage the task if she were shelter director, Smith said she'd do exactly what she's done at the Tompkins County SPCA in Ithaca, N.Y., since 2007 – improve programming for volunteers, foster-homes, off-site adoptions, and spay/neuter surgeries – but on a larger scale. Make that a much larger scale, actually: At last count, Tompkins County had a population of 102,000. Austin? Nearly 800,000. In 2009, the **Town Lake Animal Center** took in about 23,000 animals. Tompkins? Just shy of 3,000. In other words, if Smith does get the job, she's going to have to shake off some of her small-town sensibilities in order to survive. In her closing statement Tuesday, Smith displayed the slightest hint of provincial naivete, saying that she was hoping to convince the various animal groups in Austin to "work together" in a "coordinated, collaborated effort" to reach the city's no-kill goals. Anyone who has paid attention to animal issues these last few years knows that fulfilling such a wish will probably take a Christmas miracle. Assistant City Manager Bert Lumbreras is expected to make a recommendation to City Manager Marc Ott after reviewing the candidates' applications; no timeline is set for a final decision.

– Josh Rosenblatt

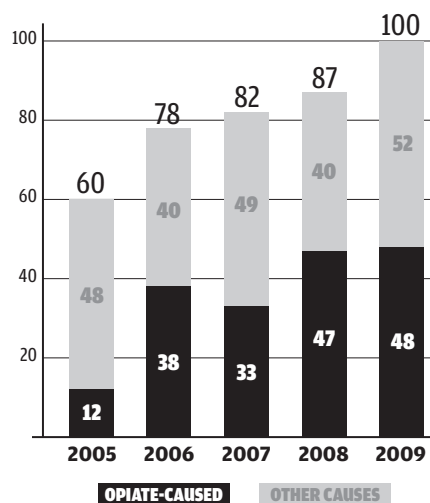
– Josh Rosenblatt

“Boy, if it were your kid at a party and something went wrong, you would certainly want someone to not be scared and to call 911.”

– **Meghan Ralston**

Of course, the point is not to let bad guys go free but to save lives. Furthermore, unlike educational programming and naloxone use (and research), the passage of a Good Samaritan law costs nothing – and, in fact, could save money through the reduced need for incarceration and associated criminal justice costs. It is exactly the kind of policy that Texas lawmakers, staring down a giant budget deficit, could justify as a way to reduce the state's skyrocketing overdose-related deaths. Regardless of that logic, it seems unlikely that when state lawmakers convene in 2011 they will see fit to take up such a measure. As far as Ralston is concerned, that would be a shame: “It is a small but so important policy,” she says. “It doesn’t effect anybody except those who are in imminent danger of dying. It is a commonsense, no-cost policy that will never affect the majority of people – but, boy, if it were your kid at a party and something went wrong, you would certainly want someone to not be scared and to call 911.” – *Jordan Smith*

Accidental Overdose Deaths, Travis County



While these numbers show a dramatic rise in overdose deaths attributed to opiates, the data may obscure further opiate-related deaths. The tally shows deaths attributed to a single opiate (either heroin, hydrocodone, methadone, morphine, or oxycodone) but does not reflect the role those drugs may have played in deaths attributed to a mix of drugs. From 2005 to 2009, mixed-drug toxicity accounted for about 35% of the county's overdose deaths.

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Wish List

Give 'til it helps, part 2

Dear Austin,

Each year, *The Austin Chronicle* invites local nonprofits to submit lists of the things they need to serve our community. We edit these as space dictates and encourage you to research the details on what specific kinds/brands/sizes/conditions of things are needed (some are legal mandates, so do please call). Here are a few hints: Please don't dump off old or broken items. Since they always need computer stuff, copies, printing, and your cash and love (i.e., volunteer hours), we've taken most of those out of the lists. If you have those to give, call your intended recipient and shower them with your tangible affection.

Let's do this, darling Austin. Let's support the good these super-heroes do all year long.

— Kate X Messer

List compiled by Kate X Messer and Katie Tomasino.

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Part 1 of this list appeared in last week's issue.
See the complete list at austinchronicle.com/wishlist

the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

HAMMERED!

For once, I actually agree with something that **Tom DeLay** said. The former Republican leader of Congress recently declared in his most somber tone, "The criminalization of politics undermines our very system." Wow. So true, Tommy.

Of course, what I mean by the "criminalization of politics" is very different from what he means. DeLay was bemoaning the stunning fact that a Texas jury had just convicted him on two felony counts of money laundering. He wailed that he was a victim of a political vendetta by Texas Democrats, calling his prosecution "an abuse of power."

Amazing. Here's a guy who became Congress' most powerful member by blatantly using his position of public trust to broker campaign cash from myriad corporations in exchange for passing their legislation. He went on worldwide golfing junkets with lobbyists aboard corporate jets, plotted legislative strategy with disgraced lobbyist **Jack Abramoff**, enjoyed lavish meals on the corporate tab, and collected millions of dollars for the GOP's campaign coffers from lobbyists – all while moving the special-interest agenda of his corporate benefactors through Congress. Yet he's whining about "an abuse of power"?

Yes, Tom, politics has been criminalized – it's been turned into a criminal enterprise funded by corporations for corporations. Reprobate politicians like you have turned the People's House into a shameful pay-to-play parlor.

DeLay was so good at hitting up corporate lobbyists for money and then pounding their wish lists into law that he was nicknamed "The Hammer." But now, the Hammer's been nailed – not by Democrats, but by a jury of 12 common citizens whom his own hotshot lawyers helped select. These honest people diligently sifted through reams of evidence and ultimately saw him for what he is: a felon.

RENEWED SWAGGER

Excellent news, people! After three years of financial doldrums and depression, money is on the move again, the economy is beginning to hum, and bluebirds of happiness are twittering with delight.

"People are starting to shake off what happened," trilled one of those bluebirds. "The mood is absolutely better," exclaimed another. "There is a definite buzz on the Street," chirped yet another happy songster.

Of course, none of these merry optimists are talking about your street or mine. Instead, the new surge of economic exuberance is being felt exclusively by those fortunate ones on **Wall Street** and in the executive suites of giant corporations. For example, the big five Wall Street firms (**Bank of America, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, and JPMorgan Chase**) have set aside \$90 billion this year to lavish huge bonuses on their big shot bankers. Ninety billion! Also, major corporations are hauling in total profits this year of \$1.7 trillion – the highest level ever recorded. Ever!

Thus, reports *The New York Times*, the moneyed elites are walking with renewed swagger and indulging themselves once again in extravagances that we commoners cannot imagine. One insurance executive, for example, has doubled her annual cosmetic surgery budget this year! Then there's the Goldman Sachs executive who celebrated Halloween with a posh party of a thousand of his best friends in a hip Manhattan night club. His bash featured an open bar and a performance by hip-hop star **Lil' Kim**, who appeared in a black cat costume.

Trick or treat, y'all! As these privileged pranksters play, the majority of Americans remain mired in a miserable, jobless economy, with incomes falling, the middle class sinking, and poverty rising. As one Wall Street economist starkly says, "This is unlikely to change in 2011 or 2012."

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, *The Hightower Lowdown* – visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.

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The 12th of Never

The dispute over one Eastside housing proposal reflects a larger Austin conflict

BY WELLS DUNBAR

East 11th Street has changed.

Along with the welcoming arch and mosaic mural greeting entrants coming off I-35, there are indicators that it has evolved in smaller ways as well. The Longbranch Inn, which first opened in 1934, is now a popular haunt for local hipsters. Where Planned Parenthood offices once stood – at the “five points” intersection of 11th, Navasota, and Rosewood – there is now a wine shop. Across the street on Rosewood is a holistic health store offering yoga and acupuncture; behind it, Roller Derby girls serve sno-cones out of a trailer.

All that growth – and accompanying gentrification – has required investment: buried utility lines, street and sidewalk repairs, and capital improvement projects like the towering Street-Jones building.

East 12th Street hasn't changed as much.

There are different theories to explain the apparent contradiction. The 11th Street improvements have primarily applied to commercial properties; 12th Street is more residential. The city has direct stakes in several portions of 11th, making it easier for redevelopment to take place; the city owns just four tracts and a parking lot along 12th, and quite a few of the undeveloped and underdeveloped plots along the street belong to several different owners. You can factor all that in, along with our protracted recession, which is seeing to it that less dirt's getting moved all over town.

But at long last, the city has something planned for 12th. Nevertheless, two nearby neighborhood associations are livid that a supportive housing proposal – including currently homeless people as potential candidates for living there – is the first major 12th Street proposal to come down the corridor in years.

Moving Targets

The Marshall Apartments account for 100 units of Section 8 apartment housing situated on two different properties: 1401 E. 12th – within the city's Urban Renewal zone – and 1157 Salina, about a block farther east, directly across the street from Kealing Middle School. Tenant turnover is low at this large, affordable complex in the Central-East area, with maybe five vacancies each year. Under the terms of a proposal initiated by City Council Dec. 9, \$2.5 million of an affordable housing bond approved by voters in 2006 would go to rehabbing the property, with the stipulation that 20 of the 100 units, managed by Summit Housing Partners and local social-service org Caritas of Austin, would be set aside for permanent supportive housing – designed with social services to get formerly homeless people off the streets (see “What is PSH?,” p.30).

It's this PSH component that has some Eastside neighbors and property owners nervous. Their objections invariably return to Marshall's proximity to 12th and Chicon – “a long-time haven for open and obvious drug sales, vagrancy, and prostitution,” as described in a Robertson Hill neighborhood memo opposing the project – and conversely, its proximity to schools. Despite Caritas' assurances about the project – that residents could be ejected for not following the program guidelines, that openings would be paired with fitting participants (for example, a vacant three- or four-bedroom unit would go to a family in the PSH program), and more – the proposal has garnered a decidedly mixed reception, ranging from lukewarm to downright hostile, with the Robertson Hill and



The Marshall Apartments on East 12th Street

PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

Swede Hill neighborhood associations having voted against it.

The PSH complaints are, in some respects, nothing new; as in recent years, complaints have batted similar proposals around all over the city, including Mobile Loaves & Fishes' proposed supportive RV park for the homeless, last seen riling communities on the Eastside, in North Austin, and near the airport. But objections to the Marshall proposal are amplified by the fact that the project falls within the Urban Renewal area directing development along 11th and 12th streets – and neighbors' complaints that while 11th has blossomed, the first major investment on 12th in years is this admittedly controversial project.

Robertson Hill Neighborhood Association President Stan Strickland and Swede Hill Neighborhood Association President Tracy Witte had hoped to challenge the proposal at a special-called meeting of the Urban Renewal Board. They were rebuffed, and as the former agreement overseeing the area has lapsed, the board's inaction on the project additionally called into question its future role – if not the future of East 12th Street's place in the Urban Renewal Plan in general.

Who's in Charge?

The Marshall blow-up comes at a particularly trying time for the Urban Renewal Board, in the middle of a six-month term of a memorandum of understanding with the city concerning its role, as its members feel out their new place in the shifting Eastside power dynamic. The city's Urban Renewal Plan was developed to address serious crime and other forms of blight affecting the area. The guiding document of revitalization efforts, the plan directs land use in the revitalization zone along the 11th and 12th street corridors. As the document used to delineate the area and the city's authority, it overrides neighborhood plans and even zoning – and moreover, any amendment to the plan would create a protracted public process, with ultimate approval up to City Council.

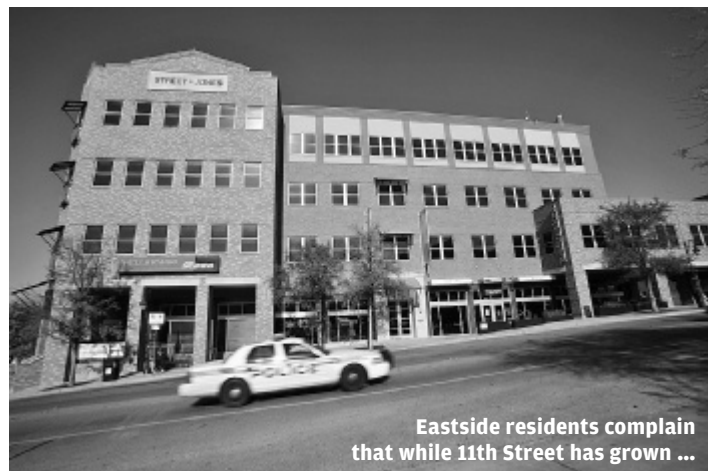
Under the plan, three groups sought to direct growth in the region. The city acted as a property holder and financier; the appointed Urban Renewal Board weighed in on projects and policy, offering amendments to the plan as necessary; and the Austin Revitalization Authority broke ground and found tenants. This arrangement lasted until October, when the city dissolved its relationship with the ARA, following longstanding complaints about its bureaucratic inertia. (“[L]iquidity challenges, reliance on the City for income, and inconsistent financial planning all impact ARA's long-term viability,” reads an introduction to a 2009 city audit of the agency.)

Regarding the Marshall project, opponents thought they could make their case to the Urban Renewal Board and potentially exclude PSH use through an amendment to the plan. The section of the plan regarding Marshall had been updated before, as recently as 2005, preserving multifamily zoning but requesting homeownership opportunities (condominiums) and doing away with a call to preserve the existing housing.

But this time, the requested change didn't happen. At a special-called November meeting, the board essentially said it was powerless to stop the proposal. Moreover, Chair Ben Sifuentes

CONTINUED ON P.30

“It was puzzling and disheartening that URB learned about the Marshall project at the 11th hour from concerned neighborhoods rather than via a timely and complete briefing.”
– former Urban Renewal Board Member Sean Garretson



Eastside residents complain that while 11th Street has grown ...



... houses sit boarded up on 12th Street, like this building at 12th and Comal.

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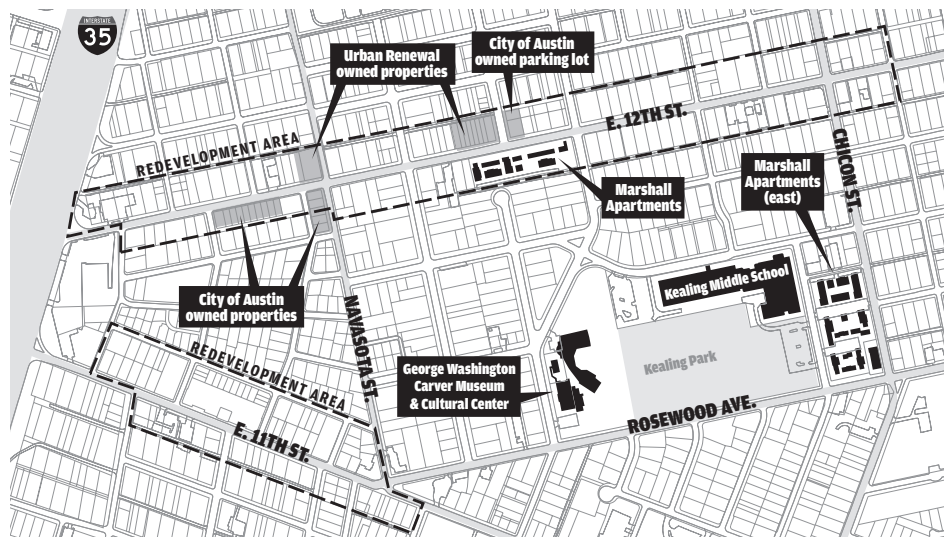
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To combat blight and crime, the city defined two Urban Renewal areas along 11th and 12th streets, designated for special attention from the city, the Urban Renewal Agency, and, until recently, the Austin Revitalization Authority. Opponents of the Marshall housing proposal complain that while 11th has seen substantial investment, 12th has not; the city points to its sparse holdings along 12th as contributing to the delay.

said (as quoted by *In Fact Daily*): “This is not within the purview of the Urban Renewal Agency. ... We can’t vote against this project. It’s against the law.” Sifuentes then called on zoning officer Jerry Rusthoven and board legal council Charles Zech to further explain. Despite city involvement in the Marshall proposal, the sale is still a legal transaction between two private entities: the owner of the Marshall Apartments and for-profit developer Summit. With the buildings currently zoned multifamily and that zoning not planned to change (PSH is a concept, not any sort of zoning designation), there’s nothing to prevent the proposal from going forward.

But if the board can’t address a neighborhood issue as significant as Marshall, then what is its role going forward?

Urban Fireworks

That question was further clouded when, soon after the decision, Urban Renewal Board Member Sean Garretson resigned his post. In a memo addressed to City Council, he wrote, “Monumental and critical transition still lies before us; I would like to be a part of the progress we all hope will be achieved, but I no longer believe I can do so as a commissioner of a broken agency.”

The Marshall decision was behind his announcement. “Noble as this endeavor may be, the public financing required to realize this project will be the first major City investment in 12th Street, and the project is being pushed in spite of broad and intense opposition from adjacent neighborhoods and East 12th Street property owners.”

Garretson then went on to lambast the proposal’s process – or lack thereof: “It was puzzling and disheartening that URB learned about the Marshall project at the 11th hour from concerned neighborhoods rather than via a timely and complete briefing from [Neighborhood Housing and Community Development].” He also blamed the chairman, writing, “Sifuentes dominated the proceedings by unilaterally re-

ordering agenda items and allowing Summit and Caritas free reign to present the project’s merits and dialogue with commissioners for over 90 minutes,” and “berated the stakeholders present as gentrifiers who wanted ‘everything pretty’ and declared in advance that URB was powerless to act in this matter.”

He concluded by calling for Sifuentes’ resignation, writing that the “Chairman has served for too long, and his tactics have marginalized other members of the Board. The community and URB commissioners need an active leader whose abilities are equal to the task of leading the revitalization effort forward, but who is also able to ensure active input from all board members and the community.”

Sifuentes was first appointed to the Urban Renewal Board in 1996, a staggering 14 years ago, and the 83-year-old lifelong East Austinite’s tenure has been a source of often-heated discussion among Eastside stakeholders. Sifuentes declined to address any questions regarding the board’s role or the Marshall decision on the record when called by the *Chronicle*, directing any questions on Marshall to the URB’s legal counsel.

But while Garretson’s letter called for fresh blood at the board level, it also decried a separate intrusion: “Though the City dissolved the Tri-party Agreement on October 1, it has yet to task a successor with ARA’s former responsibility as urban renewal gatekeeper, and NHCD has unofficially positioned itself to fill that power vacuum, advocating the merits and compliance of proposed projects to URB commissioners. We find ourselves in the very situation that the original framers of the [Urban Renewal Plan] and the Tri-Party Agreement sought to avoid: a City department asserting its goals over those of the Redevelopment Project, to the latter’s detriment.”

The More Things Change

“I appreciate you asking about whether the city of Austin has asserted itself in this, whether we’re filling a power vacuum,” says Rebecca Giello, acting director of Neighborhood Housing and Community Development. “We’re definitely, as the city, going to do everything we can to educate people about the importance of affordable housing, permanent supportive housing, and housing all along the continuum. But in this particular circumstance” – the Marshall affair – “we were providing information as it was being brought forward to the Urban Renewal Agency.”

Giello and Gina Copic, real estate development manager for AHFC and NHCD, argue that the neighbors’ hope to amend or zone the project out of order was never likely to succeed. “This is an existing development that is legal; it conforms with the zoning code, with the Urban Renewal Plan,” says Copic. “They can rehab it without notification to the neighborhood. They’re not changing the use. So there was no reason for it to go to the Urban Renewal Board, because there was nothing for them to act on.” Giello also noted: “You really have to tread a very mindful path when you begin to try and dictate who can and cannot live somewhere with services. You can really get into fair housing issues.”

So why did it appear on the board agenda in the first place? “We didn’t bring this before them; the neighborhood did,” says Copic. “I think the board knew there was nothing for them to act on.”

While it’s true the project may not be the type of mixed-use development seen along 11th Street, Copic responds that “the city and the Urban Renewal Agency do not own very much property along 12th street. It’s very limited. ... There are multiple owners along that stretch, and there are not a lot of large tracts – there are more small tracts next to one another. In order to see a larger development, you’d need to aggregate multiple lots with multiple owners. ... There’s just not a lot of opportunity for the city to, for instance, put out a request for proposals for the properties.”

“Part of it is the economy, of course,” she continues. “We recently put out an RFP for Block 16,” the vacant lot just west of the Street-Jones building on 11th, “but the board made the decision not to accept the one lone proposal. Financing right now is difficult, but there’ve also been issues raised regarding infrastructure.”

She says those infrastructure needs should be outlined in an upcoming market study of 12th Street, “hopefully to develop some implementation strategies that may help with future development, private development, and then also looking at our properties to see what the highest, best use of those properties is.”

The question remains: Does Neighborhood Housing and Community Development’s goal conflict with the broader aims of urban renewal along 12th? “We wear two hats,” Copic says of her real estate work in the renewal zone. “One is housing staff, and one is Urban Renewal Agency staff.”

“I think it’s really important when you see the city of Austin has asserted itself to ‘advocate,’” says Giello. “The desire to hear [the Marshall case] came at the board level. That does not mean that the city doesn’t have an incredibly important role in making recommendations about housing projects based on the merit of the proposal. And the proposal that Summit has moved forward has merit to warrant a recommendation, period. Whether it’s in East Austin, West Austin, Southwest, or Northeast, it’s a good proposal. It just happens to be in an area that has created a great deal of conversation.”

And as for the objections? “We’re not putting anything different there,” she says. “It’s already there!”

What Is PSH?



Permanent supportive housing has abruptly emerged as a controversial topic over the last few months, as the city seeks to create affordable housing programs and address homelessness and its related revenue drains. Similar to the national “housing first” movement, the idea behind PSH is that to address the issues keeping people on the street, comprehensive, “wraparound” social services should be offered and will be far more effective if their recipients actually have roofs over their heads. The issue took on greater urgency this past spring, when City Council passed a resolution urging the creation of 350 PSH units in four years.

Candidates for PSH can come in many shapes and sizes. The city has sought to emphasize the most benign users: women and

families fleeing domestic violence and youth aging out of foster care, for instance. But PSH also could be available to the chronically homeless and to those whose instability is increased by drug and alcohol dependency. The various subpopulations the city seeks to serve (some overlapping) also include unaccompanied youth, individuals with severe and persistent mental illness, and homeless veterans. Of the 350 PSH households, at least 225 should be “frequent users of public systems” (courts, hospitals, jails, etc.), and 75 should be deemed “vulnerable” to housing instability, according to the city’s PSH strategy.

While 350 units may sound like a lot, it’s only a fraction of the estimated 1,889 units needed.

– W.D.



Robertson Hill Neighborhood Association President Stan Strickland, whose NA opposes the Marshall project

JANA BIRCHUM

Tangible Improvement

Giello sees one silver lining in the Marshall controversy: the opportunity to raise awareness around supportive housing. “We have a great task in front of us regarding education on PSH. And this has served as a great example. You certainly don’t cherish situations like this, but you do look at it as an opportunity, when PSH issues elevate, to do the best you can to educate people about it.”

More outreach could have helped at the Carver Branch Library in East Austin earlier this month, when Kealing Neighborhood Association members gathered to discuss and decide whether to support the Marshall projects. Questions regarding the terms of the PSH lease

agreements were ample: For example, what would it take to remove a resident who wasn’t abiding by the program? How would the prospective tenants be selected? Theories were floated: one, that the proposal was simply Downtown pushing its homeless problems East; another that the apartment rehab was simply a precursor to flipping the entire apartment complex for University of Texas student housing. However, the association narrowly voted to support the project. “There are no perfect solutions, but we feel that this is an opportunity for our neighborhood to be involved with a tangible bottom-up improvement,” reads the association’s letter to council in support. “We hope that it will encourage the city, developers, and property owners in our neighborhood to consider what they can do to improve conditions today, rather than continue to let opportunities pass by. We want to emphasize that we consider this project merely a beginning to an ongoing, collaborative process to improve the quality of life of our East Austin neighborhood, not an end in itself.”

In council chambers Dec. 9, there was plenty of support for and opposition to the Marshall proposal (and not nearly as much attention paid

to two other proposals on the agenda: PSH and low-income housing initiatives in both South and Southwest Austin, near Circle C – they quietly passed). Opponents dwelt on the “crack, alcohol, prostitution, and violence” of 12th and Chicon (and were in turn mocked by supporters for their war-zone descriptions), but the 11th/12th divide also loomed in the background. In contrast to PSH at Marshall, “Do you want to know what would be a great investment on 12th Street?” asked resident Rob Seidenberg. “Here’s just the top of a small list: adding urban rail, burying power lines, improving bus stops, assisting small businesses, incentivizing the relocation of a large company onto the corridor.”

Blackshear/Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association President Rudy Williams voiced his personal support of the project: “We do not want to turn it into mixed use with high-end housing. We want to make sure that poor people have a place to stay.” But he also raised a concern unaddressed in the pleas for general redevelopment: “And as far as 12th Street goes, if 12th Street looked like 11th Street does now, there would be no minorities on 12th Street. ... 11th Street has been almost totally gentrified. Small businesses for minorities are basically nonexistent.”

Despite passage of the initial \$2.5 million in funding, this is not the last we’ll hear of Marshall. City Council’s Austin Housing Finance Corporation is set to schedule a Jan. 13 public hearing on issuing \$6 million more for the Marshall rehab, and beyond that there’s the council goal of putting 350 PSH units online in the next four years – out of an overall estimated need of 1,889. And with lurching local development putting larger projects on hold, local agencies like AHFC are the only ones spending cash.

Couple that with an Urban Renewal Board uncertain of its role post-tri-party, and it looks like the argument over properties like Marshall – if not the changing face of the Eastside as a whole – are just getting started. ■

“If 12th Street looked like 11th Street does now, there would be no minorities on 12th Street. ... 11th Street has been almost totally gentrified.”
– Blackshear NA President Rudy Williams

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Shindig on Effie Street

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

Effie Street dead-ends a block west of Glendale Boulevard at a hill too steep to pave. At the dead end, a switchback stairway goes straight up the hillside. I climbed those stairs and stopped at a landing. I held a folder of photographs. The most important, *Glendale Boulevard 1905*, showed the very view I now saw, as it was a century before. This photo was taken by Coy Watson Sr., later an important special-effects innovator for Mack Sennett and Douglas Fairbanks. Why Watson took that photograph I have no idea. In 1905, Watson could not know he'd photographed one of the most important sites in the history of silent cinema.

Also in Watson's 1905 photo is an isolated one-story building. Its sign reads: "Edendale Grocery." Edendale, then, was a rural village just northwest of what is now downtown Los Angeles.

Standing on that landing, I saw, on Aaron Street, a block north of Effie, a house in the 1905 photo that is also in later photos of Mack Sennett's Keystone Pictures Studio. The same attic, the same windows. The only difference is that a second-story porch has been enclosed to make a room. Otherwise, that house has hardly changed in a century.

Now I had two reference points. On Aaron, that century-old house. And on Effie, east of Glendale Boulevard, the concrete structure Mack Sennett built in June 1915 still stands, serving today as a U-Haul storage facility. Using that house and that building, I could lay out my Keystone photos and figure where just about everything was. For instance, if you go into the Jack in the Box on Glendale between Effie and Aaron and sit at a table on its north side, you're probably at the site of the dressing room of cinema's first great comedienne, Mabel Normand.

In a 1912 photo, the building that had been Edendale's grocery sports a painted sign: "Broncho and Keystone Film Companies." Mack Sennett, Mabel Normand, and their troupe headquartered there. That same one-story wood frame, with a new awning, is the featured exterior in Sennett's comedy "That Ragtime Band," which was released May 1, 1913. In the film, you see clearly that, as of May 1913, the Keystone Studio had not yet been built. Sennett's venture was still a week-to-week affair, uncertain of survival.

A photo taken early in 1914 shows Keystone's growth: a ramshackle place, hastily patched together around the old grocery store and a cottage about 50 yards north. There's an

open-air stage, roofed and walled with muslin "defusers," as they were called, to spread sunlight and minimize shadows. On that stage Sennett's troupe built its interior sets. This rough place is what Charles Chaplin found when he came to Keystone late in 1913.

"It was," he wrote, "a dilapidated affair with a green fence round it, one hundred and fifty feet square. The entrance to it was up a garden path through an old bungalow. ... The studio had evidently been a farm. Mabel Normand's dressing-room was situated in an old bungalow and adjoining it was another room where the ladies of the company dressed. Across from the bungalow was what evidently had been a barn, the main dressing room for minor members of the stock company and for the Keystone Kops. I was allotted the star dressing room used by Mack Sennett, Ford Sterling, and Roscoe Arbuckle. It was another barnlike structure, which might have been the harness room."

Chaplin recalled Keystone's "he-man atmosphere" of "ex circus clowns and prize-fighters." He found it intolerably vulgar, a "crude mélange of rough and tumble," justified by a "pretty dark-eyed girl named Mabel Normand. ... It was a strange and unique atmosphere of beauty and the beast."

The Keystone troupe thought Chaplin as strange as he thought them. Actress Minta Durfee remembered Chaplin as a "clever man, but he was plenty dirty." It was an era when shirts were without collars or cuffs; those were fastened on separately.

Chaplin wore the same soiled collars and cuffs for days on end. During the 1914 filming of *Tillie's Punctured Romance*, actress Marie Dressler demanded Chaplin change a food-stained collar he'd worn all week. At Keystone, he spoke a rough Cockney accent, not the cultivated voice he later developed. He befriended no one but Mabel Normand. They studied French together. Mack Sennett wrote of Chaplin, "He was lonely and *liked* to be lonely" (Sennett's emphasis).

"In the beginning," Mabel Normand remembered, "we were golden lads and girls. ... We didn't know what to do with [our money] or ourselves, and we didn't care." Then as now, that was the attitude of young adventurers. When Chaplin arrived, Normand, the studio's star, was but 19 (or 20 or 21, depending on which birth date one believes). Chaplin was 24. Arbuckle was probably 25; Durfee, his wife, probably 23 (sources differ). Sennett, graying prematurely, was called the "Old Man," though he was



only 33. They'd all "lived rough," as the saying went. Normand earned her own living from age 13; Chaplin, from age 8 or so; Arbuckle, from age 15; Sennett, from age 17. And they all knew the meaning of trouble. Arbuckle and Chaplin had alcoholic fathers; Chaplin, a schizophrenic mother; Normand watched four siblings die before their teens. Abandonment, betrayal, have-nothing poverty, violence (domestic and otherwise), alcoholism, flat-out madness, and the uncaring, unfair chances of fate – the stuff of their lives became the stuff of their comedies.

They did their own stunts, and none of it was faked. Arbuckle auditioned for Sennett by suddenly falling backward down a flight of stairs and bounding up at the bottom with a ballerinalike twinkle-toe hop, though he weighed more than 250 pounds. Normand biographer Betty Fussell reports that in 1915, filming "Dizzy Heights and Daring Hearts," Chester Conklin and Normand were "in a monoplane, with Chester at the controls. He was supposed to taxi on the ground, but he got excited, opened the throttle by mistake, and the plane took off. Fortunately it hit some trees and fortunately Mabel jumped before the crash." It was all in a day's work. Keystone's base pay was, according to Sennett, "five dollars a day and hospital bills."

Off-camera they behaved as they did on-camera. Conklin threatened to quit if Normand didn't stop sliding lit firecrackers

at his feet while he performed. She also was known to toss firecrackers into the developing room, where their flammable nitrate-film stock could have blown the shed, those in it, and Normand herself sky-high. One day, when Sennett berated her for being late, she sat on his lap and peed. They'd mix hot mustard into someone's make-up or coat a Keystone Kop's helmet with stinky cheese that then melted onto his face in the hot sun. Sennett boasted proudly: "We lived our art."


Minta Durfee remembered her introduction to Keystone. She and Arbuckle were stranded in Los Angeles, looking for work, when they ran into Sennett's friend and cohort Fred Mace. He told them: "There's a shindig on Effie Street. You might try there." A shindig it was.

Like Chaplin, Normand, and Sennett, few Keystone players had even an eighth-grade education. Sennett said it: "There were no dukes on the Mayflower." Nobody had ever done anything like what they were doing.

Chaplin at Keystone, the new 4-disc set, presents their films wonderfully restored. Some are not laugh-aloud funny to our tastes (and some are, especially *Tillie*), but all bristle and spark with wildness and grace, a demonic and daemoniac energy that makes you wish you were there in that raw time and place, that "cloud-cookoo land of laissez-faire and topsy-turvy" (Sennett's words), when the free, the painful, and the joyful careened into one word: slapstick. ■


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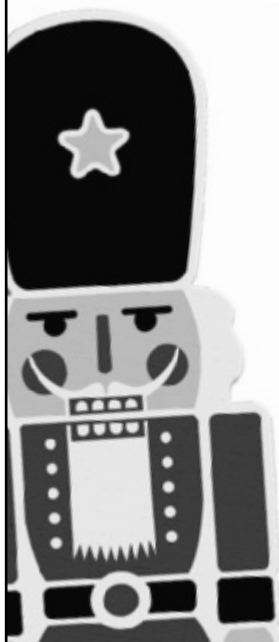
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AUSTIN VISUAL ARTS AWARDS

"And the Fearing goes to ..." II

For the sophomore presentation of the Austin Visual Arts Awards, the setting was changed, but the sentiment was much the same. The Austin Visual Arts Association, which sponsors the honors, shifted the ceremony from the Austin Museum of Art community room to a ballroom in the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center on the University of Texas campus, which relieved the congestion of the inaugural ceremony – to be fair, AVAA hadn't expected 250 people to show up – and gave it the ambience of a more traditional awards show. But the sense of community, the gratitude for Austin's welcoming inclusiveness best expressed last year by Beili Liu after being named Artist of the Year 3 Dimensional Art, was back. Artist of the Year Photography Santiago Forero, who moved here from his native Colombia in 2007, said that he feels more like an Austin artist after three years than he ever felt like a Colombian artist. In accepting the 2010 President's Award of Excellence, British artist Edward Povey said that he and his artist wife, Donna, moved here from Wales because of all the places they'd ever visited, Austin was "the most real."

The 2010 Austin Visual Arts Awards Winners

Artist of the Year 2 Dimensional Art: **Lance Letscher**
 Artist of the Year 3 Dimensional Art: **Jade Walker**
 Artist of the Year Photography: **Santiago Forero**
 Artist of the Year Early Career: **Carlos Rosales-Silva**
 Artist of the Year New Media: **Ryan Hennessee**
 Collectors Circle Award: **Ken Hale**
 Art Patron of the Year: **Mike Chesser**
 Lifetime Achievement Award: **Don Snell**
 Service to the Arts Award: **Robert Faires**
 President's Award of Excellence: **Edward Povey**

Povey looked a bit gobsmacked when AVAA President Donna Crosby announced him as the recipient, which had been kept a secret (as had been the winner of the Service to the Arts Award, which caught this humble reporter completely off-guard, thus accounting for the overly long and rambling thank-you). But Povey was as charming on the receiving end of an award as he'd been on the giving end; in presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to the unstoppable 88-year-old Don Snell – who was at the ceremony despite having broken his hip just days earlier – Povey brought a top hat to the podium so he might literally take off his hat to Snell. He noted pointedly, however, that the award is in a sense premature, as Snell is "not yet done" – and seeing the vitality of this artist deep into his 80s may have sent more than one artist scurrying from the ceremony right back to the studio.

The Austin Visual Arts Awards, nicknamed "Fearings" in honor of longtime Texas artist Kelly Fearing, started this year with 100 nominations submitted from 16 area arts organizations, galleries, studios, media outlets, and museums. The artists receiving the highest scores were named finalists.

Heather Tolleson, the 2009 Artist of the Year Early Career, bestows the honor on this year's winner, Carlos Rosales-Silva.



A selection committee made up of seven arts professionals scored each finalist independently, and the artists with the highest scores were recognized with awards. The full list of winners is inset.
 – Robert Faires

► Congratulations to choreographer **Deborah Hay** on receiving a USA fellowship grant from the national artists' advocacy organization United States Artists. Only 50 artists are selected annually for these unrestricted grants. Hay was among six dance-makers chosen by the five-member dance panel chaired by Sixto Wagan of DiverseWorks in Houston. She was not, however, the only Austin resident to receive a 2010 fellowship: Documentary filmmaker **Anne Lewis** was awarded one as well from the media panel, which was chaired by Austin Film Society Programming Director **Chale Nafus**. For more information, visit www.unitedstatesartists.org, where you can also learn about USA Projects, through which artists are seeking funding online. Bastrop-based jazz trumpeter **Hannibal Lokumbe**, a 2009 USA Fellow and member of the 2010 music panel, has fully funded his Music Liberation project for inmates at the Youth Detention Center, Bastrop County Jail, and the federal prison near Bastrop at the \$10,000 level, but **Katie Pearl** and **Lisa D'Amour**, present and past Austin theatre artists, are still in

Deborah Hay



culture flash!

need of \$7,255 to fund their *How To Build a Forest* project with visual artist Shawn Hall in New York City and New Orleans. Wouldn't you like to make a holiday gift in support of these gifted artists?

► **Vortex Repertory Company** has just scored its second grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for an original musical. Following up on the \$15,000 grant in 2009 for its adaptation of *Sleeping Beauty* by **Content Love Knowles** and Vortex Artistic Director **Bonnie Cullum**, the company will receive \$20,000 to support *Sarah Silver Hands*, an original all-ages musical inspired by the Grimm Brothers' fairy tale *The Girl Without Hands*. **Chad Salvata**, who composed *Vampyress*, *The Dragonfly Princess*, *Pythia Dust*, and *The X&Y Trilogy* for Vortex, will create the adaptation, and Cullum will direct. In the story, Sarah, Princess of the Autumn Kingdom, loses her hands but finds her destiny and creates peace between the Autumn and Winter kingdoms. For more information, visit www.vortexrep.org.

► **Arthouse** has named the three finalists for the 2011 Arthouse Texas Prize, the biennial honor recognizing an innovative talent on the Lone Star art scene. Houston artists **Jamal Cyrus** and **Will Henry** and Austin's **Jeff Williams** beat

out more than 140 of their peers nominated by 64 art world professionals. They were selected by a jury composed of Arthouse Executive Director Sue Graze; Bill Arning, director of Contemporary Arts Museum Houston; Gary Carrion-Murayari, senior curatorial assistant at the Whitney Museum of American Art; Philipp Kaiser, senior curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson, director and chief curator at the Aspen Art Museum; and 2007 Arthouse Texas Prize recipient Katrina Moorhead. Each finalist receives a stipend to create new work that will be shown at Arthouse Aug. 25-Oct. 30, 2011, in an exhibition organized by Arthouse curator and Associate Director Elizabeth Dunbar. The recipient of the prize, which comes with a \$30,000 check, will be announced at Arthouse's annual fundraiser gala in October 2011. For more information, visit www.arthousetexas.org.

► So who won the honor of playing Mother Ginger in **Ballet Austin's** big vote this season? **Jeanne Goka**, that's who. The principal of the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders received 21,179 votes during the 15-day contest, beating out 20



Jeanne Goka

other community leaders and local celebs, including runners-up Mary Ann Laverty of Silicon Labs and County Line restaurants owner Don A. "Skeeter" Miller, as well as Vortex Repertory Company Artistic Director Bonnie Cullum. Guess those students of Goka's were desperate to see her camping it up in that outsized satin bosom and releasing 16 Bon Bon dancers from under her tent-sized skirt. Well, at least the principal gets a celebrity dressing room and a gift basket for her troubles, plus eight box-seat tickets for the show, a discount code for other friends' and family members' tickets, and a photo and video of herself in costume. Goka takes the stage for the final performance of Ballet Austin's 48th production of *The Nutcracker*, which happens Thursday, Dec. 23, at 2pm. The Mother Gingers for the other remaining performances are: KVUE Sports Director **Mike Barnes** (Friday, Dec. 17, 7:30pm), Austin Fire Department Chief **Rhoda Mae Kerr** (Saturday, Dec. 18, 2pm), *JB & Sandy Morning Show* personality **Cassidy Proctor** (Saturday, Dec. 18, 7:30pm), Susan G. Komen for the Cure Austin Executive Director **Christy Casey** (Sunday, Dec. 19, 2pm), video-game developer and astronaut **Richard Garriott** (Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:30pm), and community volunteer and philanthropist **Lorrie Garcia** (Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2pm). All performances are in Dell Hall at the Long Center, 701 W. Riverside. For more information, call 476-2163 or visit www.balletaustin.org.
 – R.F.

By Any Means Necessary

Suzan-Lori Parks works it – and helps you work it, too

BY ROBERT FAIRES

So how does Suzan-Lori Parks work?

She sits at a table, sunglasses perched atop her head, one foot serving as a literal footrest for the other, plugs in her ears, eyes on the page, fingers rapping out a little percussion jazz solo with the keys of a cherry-red Olivetti typewriter. Occasionally, the rhythmic clackety-clack drops out while she lifts a pencil to make a change or addition in a notebook. But there are no long stretches of pacing or staring into space – in fact, there's little in the way of pauses of any kind, save for her to take a sip of tea or unwrap a peppermint or check the amount of time left on the kitchen timer on the table. She's constantly plugging away.

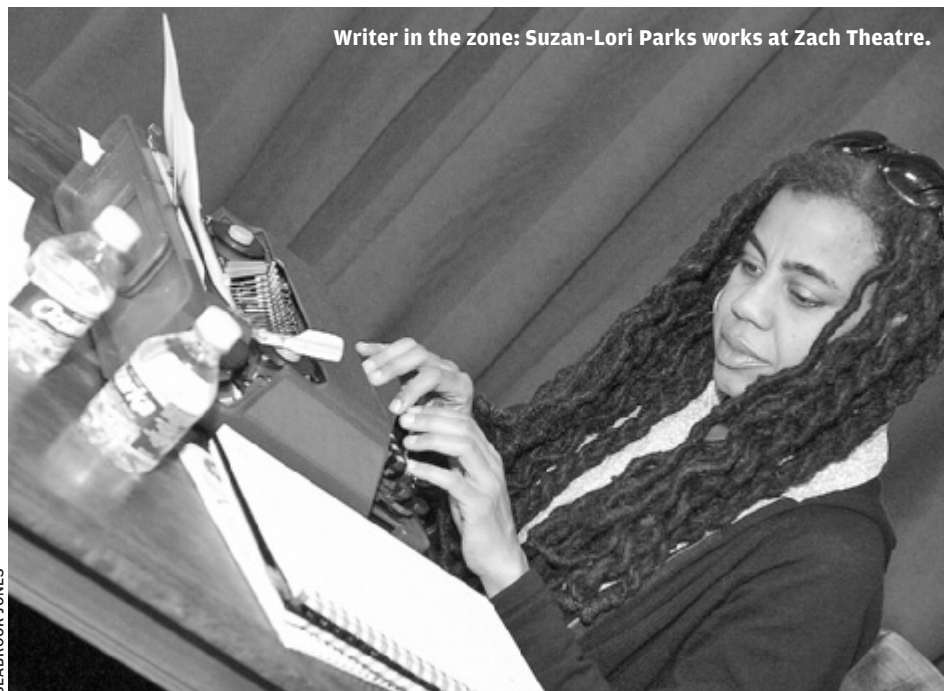
At least, that's how she was working on Saturday, Dec. 11, during the third and final session of *Suzan-Lori Parks: Watch Me Work* in Austin. The playwright (*Topdog/Underdog*, *In the Blood*, *The America Play*) conceived the performance piece for the upcoming Under the Radar Festival in New York City, but she's been holding sessions/performances of it at the Public Theater there since mid-October. While she was in town to cast *The Book of Grace*, her new play that she's directing for Zach Theatre later this season, Parks invited Austinites to watch her work, too. Actually, it was more like she asked them to work with her: Parks encourages participants to spend the timed hour of each session doing something themselves. It may be writing, or it may be knitting, drawing, or woodworking, too.

Still, Parks developed this as a theatrical piece – she refers to it as a play – and the setting at Zach certainly plays on that idea. In the Nowlin Rehearsal Studio (east of the Whisenhunt Stage on Toomey Road), Zach created a small stage for Parks, inspired by her workspace at the Public. Before a tall, red curtain was a raised platform maybe 8-feet square on which stood two stanchions linked by a red velvet rope. Behind them were a

small end table and a larger cherrywood table on which sat things to drink (at the session I saw, these included a bottle of water and a tall, white ceramic mug of tea), a small tray full of peppermints, the red kitchen timer, and the all-important typewriter.

Parks was welcoming and engaged with the participants as she introduced the session, but once she started the timer and sat down at the table, it was as if she'd slipped behind theatre's fabled fourth wall. She acknowledged neither the camera trained on her (all *Watch Me Work* sessions are streamed live on the Web) nor any of the almost 50 people who joined her on the sunny, balmy weekend morning in December. They sat at a hodgepodge of tables and desks – long worktables, some old, some new; tables from living rooms and kitchens; round cabaret two-tops and four-tops; wooden and metal office desks; school desks – arranged in a semicircle facing Parks' stage.

But few of the participants actually devoted much attention to Parks. Most had taken the invitation to work seriously and spent the hour doing so with considerable industriousness. Contrary to expectation, fewer than half wrote on laptops. Most used pens or pencils in journals, small notebooks, or whatever paper was at hand. Their gazes were down, at the screen, at the once-blank sheets rapidly filling with marks, letters, words, thoughts. Each would occasionally look up like a swimmer taking a gulp of air, the necessary and stimulating oxygen, then dive back into the work. Deep thought filled the room like water in a tank. That's a quality we don't always appreciate when we encounter a similar hive of writers in a coffee shop; the commercial enterprise colors our sense of the environment and what's happening in it. But here, there was an awareness of communal purpose and focus to the event and the time – like some mix of a library and a yoga session.



Writer in the zone: Suzan-Lori Parks works at Zach Theatre.

If you want good advice about writing, Parks says, go to the slogans of the civil rights movement: Do your thing. By any means necessary. Each one teach one. Eyes on the prize. It's all good. Keep on keepin' on. Ain't nobody gonna turn me round.

Then the bell rang. It was noon; the work session was over. Heads looked up. Parks stopped, smiled, and pulled the paper out of the typewriter and the plugs out of her ears. She moved out from behind the table, again the amiable host, and told the crowd that in this part of the play they would be helping to write the dialog by asking questions about their process. For the next 45 minutes, she responded to about 15 queries, many of them rooted in breaking through the assorted obstacles that plague writers: lack of time, lack of discipline, lack of inspiration, lack of focus. Parks provided very practical – and forgiving – advice. “First, you need to make the time. Then everything else will follow from that,” she offered. The amount of time isn't as important as the sense of accomplishment you feel once the timer goes off. (A timer and earplugs are the most helpful aids in writing, she finds.) “If an hour feels too long, try 30 minutes. If that's too long, try 15. If that's too long, try five. Try one minute,” she said. “Sit down and focus for one minute. And use your timer, 'cause then you know you're done.” The important thing is to “keep lowering the bar until it's low enough for you to step over it with ease.” She likened the process to training for a marathon in which you build the amount of time that you work in increments.

“Like the man said, ‘By any means necessary,’” Parks told the group, invoking a key slogan of the Civil Rights movement. Actually, she added, those slogans “can all be applied to the writing process: By any means necessary. Each one teach one. Eyes on the prize. Keep on keepin' on. Ain't nobody gonna turn

me round. If you're an artist and you're like, ‘What am I gonna do?’ ‘Ain't nobody gonna turn me round.’ That's amazing.”

And don't sweat inspiration, Parks advised. “Sit down even if you don't feel you have something to write. Just show up.” To a later question about generating stories, she described how one can pull material from the day's events: “[Stories] are happening all the time. You have to believe that they're always there. If I were still doing *365 Days/365 Plays*, a play a day, the play for yesterday would be called *A Play for Elizabeth Edwards*. It would be a tribute play, and it would be about Elizabeth Edwards, who passed away recently. It would be a little short play about something I wanted to say to her, for her, or wanted to involve her in. The day before *that* would involve a man who came up to the counter [at the hotel where Parks was staying], talking to the waiter, and said, ‘I want a cup of coffee!’ And the waiter said, ‘What's the magic word?’ And the man said, ‘Abracadabra?’ So that's a play, you know what I mean? They're short – little snapshots. You have to really believe that the stories are out there. You have to tune in.”

And when whatever story you end up working on is a struggle – you hate what you wrote, you're blocked, you can't finish it – don't beat yourself up over it. “It's all good,” she said, going back to those slogans of the movement. “You have to practice patience, which is a great skill,” she told one questioner and advised another to have “more compassion” for her writing process. “Writing is 99.99 percent personality management, and the rest is just moving your hand.” ■

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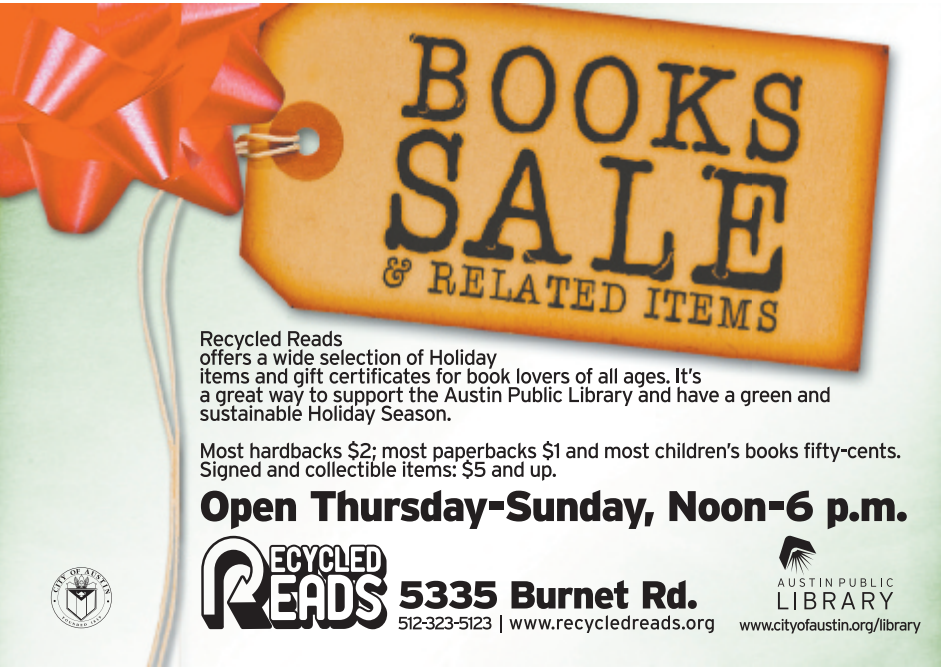
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ABOUT TO DIE: HOW NEWS IMAGES MOVE THE PUBLIC

by Barbie Zelizer

Oxford University Press, 432 pp., \$24.95 (paper)

THE VERSO BOOK OF DISSENT: FROM SPARTACUS TO THE SHOE-THROWER OF BAGHDAD

edited by Andrew Hsiao and Audrea Lim

Verso, 384 pp., \$19.95 (paper)

Sometimes it really feels like the body politic refuses to be woken from its slumber. Between grave injustices and horrifying events, it seems near-impossible to stir an apathetic electorate. Yet occasionally, if too rarely, a shocking image or a radical thought can still provoke debate and even action.

Ignore the title: *About To Die* isn't a coffee-table take on the *Faces of Death* mondo movies. Author Barbie Zelizer is the Raymond Williams Chair of Communication at the University of Pennsylvania and this is a serious academic discussion of how the news treats images of imminent death. She lays out her core theory in the first chapter: that photojournalism is balanced between "As Is" and "As If." The first means that the photograph adds verisimilitude to the text, shoring up the story with a seemingly undeniable moment frozen in time. Yet it's the "As If" that really fascinates Zelizer: how images are contextualized, the backstory that readers and editors create to fill in the blanks, and how that shapes political discourse.

Unfortunately, that key opening chapter is a chore, drenched in oblique references to fellow

theorists. Fortunately, it's worth the slog. This is an audacious and often chilling examination of how visual media handle the moment of death, from engravings of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 to the Pacific tsunami of 2004. With an obvious and admitted debt to the academy's favorite photography buff Susan Sontag, Zelizer treats these images as both rare and powerful. Their impact, she argues, is balanced between readers' squeamishness, their sense of moral outrage, and their voyeurism.

If Zelizer's book has one failing, it's that her vision of the day-to-day mechanics of news gathering sometimes depends upon a confrontational process, with photographers misrepresented by ham-fisted editors messing up the "As If." There's also little insight into the accidental nature of many such photographs or about the damage they inflict on those that take them. However, her real emphasis is on the readers, the messages they are absorbing, and how they impose their own view of the world on images. Take the collapse of the Twin Towers. In the immediate aftermath of 9/11, the iconic images of structural collapse were a visual metaphor for the death of the people inside. Now, as the *American Journalism Review* put it, they have become "a kind of wallpaper." Did audiences become immune to the images' power due to over-exposure, Zelizer asks, or were they always just a bloodless proxy for the real horror of the day?

As an academic enterprise, *The Verso Book of Dissent* is no less intellectually rigorous than *About To Die*, but it is structurally its polar opposite, replacing depth with breadth. Where Zelizer takes individual images and laboriously charts their

impact on the debate of the day, co-editors Andrew Hsiao and Audrea Lim have undertaken the mammoth task of collating a near-definitive anthology of the voice of opposition to oppression. There are the obvious inclusions: An excerpt from Émile Zola's *J'Accuse*, a sliver of Thomas Paine's *The Age of Reason*, and a few beats from Tupac Shakur. Yet to find obscure voices like Uighur poet Abdukhaliq, and to see him link philosophical arms with Andrea Dworkin and Marvin Gaye, is testament to the power of the urge for equality.

It's an inherent weakness of such anthologies that they're best absorbed in bite-size chunks. What unifies this work is that, from ancient Egypt to contemporary Argentina, the voice of popular dissent has always called for the same rights. Whether it's Enlightenment-era France calling for *liberté, égalité, fraternité*, or the Founding Fathers laying out self-evident truths, the same urges for justice are always there. That global and historical diversity places a firm dent in the idea of American exceptionalism, instead placing it within a greater context.

The unwritten coda is that the same social injustices remain without redress. Woody Guthrie's "Deportee," a lament for 28 migrant workers who died in a plane crash, is as sadly relevant today as it was in 1948, when he strummed it on a guitar inscribed with "This Machine Kills Fascists." Yet there's something deeply heartening in reading third-century Tamil poet Thiruvalluvar write with as much power and passion about liberty as Muntazer al-Zaidi (the titular Iraqi shoe-thrower) mustered nearly two millennia later. — Richard Whittaker

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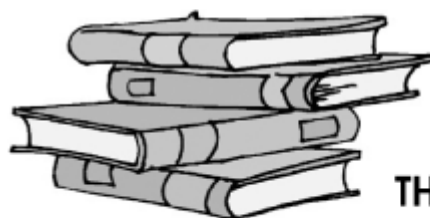
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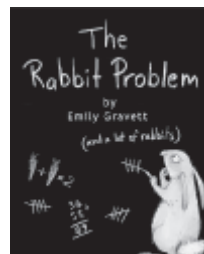
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THE RABBIT PROBLEM

BY EMILY GRAVETT

RECOMMENDED FOR AGES 3 AND UP

How could 1+1 possibly equal 288? Well, this new picture book from staff favorite Emily Gravett will prove the accuracy of the problematic mathematical equation by taking us through one year with a very adorable, and quite expansive, rabbit family.

A PIG PARADE IS A TERRIBLE IDEA

BY MICHAEL IAN BLACK, ILLUSTRATED BY KEVIN HAWKES

RECOMMENDED FOR AGES 3 AND UP

For anyone who's ever thought that a pig parade sounded like a marvelous idea, this hilarious book should prove remarkably illuminating.



BEAUTY & THE BEAST:

A POP-UP BOOK OF THE CLASSIC FAIRY TALE

BY ROBERT SABUDA

RECOMMENDED FOR AGES 5 AND UP

One of our favorite fairy tales has been beautifully engineered into three-dimensional life through the hands of pop-up master Robert Sabuda.

THE SEARCH FOR WONDLA

BY TONY DITERLIZZI

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after a fashion **BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER**

NOT YOUR TYPICAL THURSDAY Well, I've never been to a party at a dentist's office, but since I'd been there earlier in the day for an appointment, I thought I'd drop by **Authentic Smiles Dental Studio** (www.authenticsmiles.com) for the **All Wrapped Up** toy drive (I donated a **Barbie**, naturally), plus a concert by the dreamy **Sally Allen** and a holiday sale featuring **RubyPearl** (her slip dresses adorn so many Austin women), **Plain Ivey Jane** (which resells overstock from stores such as **Anthropologie** at very affordable prices), **Scentsy** (a new twist on room fragrance), **Bella Salon**, **Beyond Tradition**, **Eliza Page**, and **Tinkerwendy**. Authentic Smiles' founder **Shane Matt** (the rock & roll dentist who helps provide services for the **SIMS Foundation**) and the most glamorous **Samera Owadian** magnanimously presided. I met a dazzling beauty named **Mashad**, and after the party, she and Dr. Matt accompanied me to the **W Hotel** opening (which we crashed, but we were welcomed incredibly graciously anyway). The hotel was packed with pretty people, and we got a tour of the tres glam facilities. We then had to hurry over to the **Phoenix** for the **Larissa Ness** preview party for her upcoming CD **Tease**. Larissa is an especially dynamic performer; I've never seen her perform anything the same way twice. Expect to see her name everywhere as her popularity jumps by leaps and bounds every day. The Phoenix is the old Pangaea space redone with bordello flair (I was right at home), and management told me about future plans to bring some very serious fashion to Austin. We wait with bated breath. Then we passed by **Antone's**, where we ran into **Nak Armstrong** and **Amy Edwards** outside. We were still hugging and catching up when **Lea and Blake Buffington** came out. Blake's sister, the impossibly beautiful **Kimberly Buffington Quaid** through the door, and we threw our arms around each

other (she and her husband, **Dennis**, have Christmas stockings in their home that I designed and made for each of them and their children). Kimberly ushered me upstairs to see Dennis, who had just performed with his band (how the hell did I miss *that?*). I hijacked them and insisted they accompany me back to the W. Showing up at the W opening with Kimberly and Dennis Quaid is a columnist's wet dream. Needless to say, the W was very pleased to have Dennis, but of course catering to stars is the W's stock-in-trade. Seeing so many old friends, great performances, and great performers crystallized my holiday spirit and melted even my curmudgeonly heart.

SHOP TALK After giving a so-so review to **Beyond Tradition's** initial offering of menswear (I thought **Estilo** did it better), I must say resident fashion director **Phillip Solomun** upped the ante and brought in looks that are unique to Beyond Tradition. The leather bags and accessories by **Hammitt** are sensational, but it is the menswear group by **Moods of Norway** (www.moodsofnorway.com) that is so fresh that it takes a moment to comprehend. Known for its many original details (like the tractor motif that appears on its label, linings, etc.), Moods of Norway donates a portion of their sales to support farmers in Norway. That may not be a hot issue here, but the clothes soon will be. Next-door neighbor **Duo** opened last week, carrying about 60% menswear. I haven't perused the clothes yet, but the more menswear the better, I say. Apparently they are part of **AA Concepts Inc.**, which also opened **Langford Market** on the same block as well as **Wish** on the Drag. Speaking of menswear: **Downstairs Apparel** is having its **Blues Xmas Party** at the **Scout Inn** on Sat., Dec. 18, with **Mudphonic**, **Greyhounds**, and **DJ Orion**, to



Patricia Vonne and Nakia Reynosa at the **SIMS Foundation Bash**, which featured so many of Austin's brightest talents under one roof to raise money for mental health services for our musical community.

benefit **Caritas** and **Toys for Tots**. Reduced admission is available with the donation of a toy or nonperishable food item.

CHRISTMAS DICK Check out my conversation with **Andy Dick** (austinchronicle.com/chronolog). I thought he was pretty vile until I spoke with him, so don't let the public scandals be all you know about him. See him perform his **Stocking Stuffer Music & Comedy Show** on Saturday, Dec. 18, 9pm at **Emo's**.

OOPS I said it was **Dancing With the Stars Austin** winner **Charmaine McGill** who broke her leg last year. I'm possessed. It was **Stacey Hammer**. Then I had the nerve to identify **Stephanie Coultriss** as **Maria Groten** and vice versa in the photo. Apologies to all four ladies.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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During peach season, **Ron and Dianne Laird** set up a seven-days-a-week farm stand on South Lamar and Bluebonnet, selling fresh Fredericksburg peaches and other Hill Country produce such as fresh okra, tomatoes, squash, and peppers. For Austinites with neither the time nor the inclination to drive to Fredericksburg for their peaches, it was a tremendous convenience. After peach season ended and hard freezes put an end to the vegetables, the Lairds moved their stand to South Congress, where it's now open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 9:30am to 7pm.

Although fresh orchard peaches won't be back until next summer, the Lairds are still bringing the flavors of Fredericksburg to Austin: Texas Hill Country brand **peach cider** (\$3.50), **peach salsa** (\$6.25), **peach halves** (\$8.75), and **peach preserves** (\$7.75); **D.J.'s Pickled Okra** (\$9.50) and **Pickled Jalapeños** (\$7.75); and Fredericksburg brand shelled fresh **pecans** (\$12.50). For the holiday season, they've added **gift baskets** to their wares (\$21-55), made by nestling Hill Country food items in pecan-bag burlap inside authentic peach crates.

"As far as we know, we are the only place to buy these Fredericksburg products in Austin," says Ron Laird. "We work directly with the growers; we have to, because it's the only way to have reasonable prices. And it's nice, really; for instance, this pickled okra is the same okra from **Fike Farms** that we sold fresh over the summer. We know where everything we sell comes from and who made it."



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

The peach cider is incredible: The supersaturated flavor of Texas peaches has been captured and intensified, making a cider that easily beats any apple cider hands down. "It's good cold, over ice; over ice cream; in smoothies; added to sparkling water, and it's also great the traditional way: in a hot mug on a cold evening," relates Dianne Laird. "Several bartenders here in town are using it for specialty drinks; it has such an amazing flavor."

When the fresh produce starts coming in again in the spring, the Lairds plan to run farm stands at both the old and new locations. For the holiday season, however, they'll be at Gibson and Congress only. "This whole experience has been wonderful," says Dianne Laird. "Everyone is so appreciative of the quality of the things we are bringing in!"

— Kate Thornberry

Holiday Tamales

Every year since the revered **Green & White Grocery** stopped selling tamales, readers have contacted me asking about places to buy their traditional holiday treat. Some years, I've discovered tamale sales at church or school holiday bazaars, but there was no luck on that front this year. However, several businesses responded to my calls for tamale info, and they're eager to fill your orders. Ordering in advance is your best bet in most cases. *Feliz Navidad.*



Gardener's Feast (100 E. Parsons, Manor, 512/278-1775) offers several varieties of authentic, Mexico City-style tamales (meat, vegetarian, and vegan) at its retail store and at booths at eight farmers' markets around the area.

Central Market (both locations) Pick up eight-packs of chicken-tomatillo, pork-beef-poblano, or bean-and-cheese tamales from the deli case to steam at home, or get ready-to-eat individual tamales from the Chef's Case.

Guero's Taco Bar (1412 S. Congress, 447-7688) Preorder beef-pork, black-bean-and-cheese, or turkey tamales by the dozen, and pick them up frozen (with cooking instructions) or hot and ready to eat.

Santa Rita Cantina (1206 W. 38th, 419-RITA; 5900 Slaughter, 288-5100) Preorder chicken-tomatillo or pork tamales by the dozen or half-dozen with distinctive sauces at either location.

El Meson (5808 Burleson, 416-0749; 2038 S. Lamar, 442-4441) Preorder dozens of pork, chicken, or poblano-and-cheese tamales at either location.

La Sombra Bar & Grill (4800 Burnet Rd. #200, 458-1100) Preorder dozens or half-dozen of authentic Peruvian-style green chicken or *pibil* pork tamales with sauces.

Berryhill Baja Grill (3600 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-9033) Preorder beef, pork, chicken, bean, or spinach-and-corn tamales in packs of three, six, or 12.

Rosie's Tamale House (13436 Hwy. 71 W., Bee Cave, 512/263-5245) sells dozens of spicy or mild pork tamales on a first come, first served basis.

Mr. Natural (1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228; 2414 S. Lamar, 916-9223) Preorder dozens of vegetarian or vegan tamales at both locations.

La Mexicana Bakery (1924 S. First, 443-6369) Preorder dozens of pork, chicken, or poblano-and-cheese tamales.

La Hacienda Market (9717 N. Lamar, 339-4773) Preorder dozens of pork, chicken, or corn tamales.

— V.B.W.

Event Menu Dec. 16-21

➤ Austin's environmental community invites you to the third annual **Green Holiday Party** at Fiesta Gardens (2100 Jesse E. Segovia), with music by Tribal Nation and a 100% organic menu prepared by the kitchen of the Barr Mansion, the nation's only certified organic event venue. \$30, general admission; \$20, members of any of the 10 sponsor organizations. Preregister only: www.texasgreennetwork.org. Thursday, Dec. 16, 5:30-9:30pm.

➤ The new-to-Austin regional chain **Dickey's Barbecue Pit** (5350 Burnet Rd., 467-6653, www.dickeys.com) celebrates its grand opening with a Toys for Tots drive and prize giveaways during a live remote broadcast with Majic 95.5FM. Friday, Dec. 17, 11am-1pm.

➤ Based on the huge success of the first offering, **Aquarelle** (606 Rio Grande, 479-8117) co-owner Teresa Wilson presents another **Basil's Week** featuring signature dishes from the popular Eighties and Nineties Italian restaurant. Tuesday-Friday, Dec. 21-24, dinner only.

— V.B.W.

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

More than 60 area restaurants offered locally based menu items, and we're told that all the events at this year's **Eat Local Week** attracted larger paying crowds than last year's, so *Edible Austin* Publisher Marla Camp says she's optimistic the donation given to beneficiary **Urban Roots** will top the 2009 total of \$38,000. Three events included contests, with the following winners: Barista Contest finalists **Dan Streetman** of Irving Farm Coffee Company and **Clancy Rose** of Cuvée Coffee, Topsy Texan Drink Local Cocktail Contest winner **Bill Norris** of **Haddingtons** for his Waco Haze Cutter made with Balcones Rumble and Balcones True Blue (winning recipes are at www.tipsytexan.com), and **Nik Ciccone** of Fox 7, who cooked his way to a win at the Media Celebrity Cook-Off at the Downtown Farmers' Market Saturday morning. Thanks for participating and hearty congratulations to all.

Speaking of **Balcones Distillery**, we've been advised that **Chip Tate's** young Waco operation recently received a five-star review in prestigious spirits periodical *The Tasting Panel*, a relatively unheard-of honor for such a new endeavor. (I can't help myself — using the words "Waco" and "distilling" in the same sentence makes me smile.)

The austerity of the holidays got you down? Looking for family entertainment to replace the annual pilgrimage to the missing Trail of Lights? Here are some ideas. What about a tour of **ginger-bread villages** at Downtown hotels? Check out the elaborate baked architecture created by the pastry departments at the Four Seasons (98 San Jacinto), Hyatt Regency (208 Barton Springs Rd.), the Driskill (Sixth & Brazos), and the Omni Downtown (Eighth & San Jacinto), but resist the urge to take a bite!... Do stop in for desserts, coffee, and hot chocolate at **Mozart's Coffee Roasters** (3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900) to appreciate its huge **holiday musical light extravaganza**, which presents five minutes of recorded music and dancing lights (including a burnt-orange Bevo) at the top of every hour, 6pm till midnight, every night through the holidays.

Three local bloggers have good reason to celebrate this holiday season. The editors of the Zagat restaurant surveys are now recognizing food blogs that offer unique content specific to selected cities. Kudos to Jessica Meyer's **ATX Gluten-Free** (www.atxglutenfree.wordpress.com) and Mando Rayo's **Taco Journalism** (www.tacojournalism.blogspot.com) for being the only Texas food blogs recognized by Zagat... And a big shout out to Hilah Johnson, whose Web TV series, **Hilah Cooking!**, was named Blog of the Year at last week's Austin Blogger Awards — you go, girl!

While it's highly unlikely that we'll see any actual snow this holiday season, look for authentic New Orleans-style sno-balls, frozen yogurt, and hot chocolate at the new **Ice Queens** trailer (1210 Rosewood, www.austincequeens.com), open daily, noon to 7:30pm.

Pitmaster **Aaron Franklin** called with great news over the weekend. Plans are in the works to relocate his very popular **Franklin Barbecue** operation (3421 N. I-35, 653-1187, www.franklinbarbecue.com) to a brick-and-mortar location on East 11th that comes with decades of great barbecue karma as part of the deal. Franklin signed the lease on Ben Wash's East Austin building last week and expects to be up and running in the new spot soon after the first of the year. Meanwhile, he's still smokin' Wednesdays through Sundays in the original location. We'll keep you posted on the opening date in January.

Visions of Sugarplums

Two local bakers create distinctive pastries this holiday season

Melissa Brinckman, Cake & Spoon Baking Company

I discovered the Cake & Spoon baking company booth at the Downtown Farmers' Market one Saturday morning in 2009. I came away with scones, shortbread, a cinnamon bun, a small quiche, and a luscious lemon-curd tart, plus the nagging feeling that I recognized the tall, thin woman working the booth from somewhere. During a follow-up call to rave about the delicious baked goods, I got reacquainted with fellow baker Melissa Brinckman, and we reminisced about how our paths had often crossed in Austin's much smaller Eighties restaurant community. Brinckman's career trajectory into the food business started when she was an administrative assistant at *Texas Monthly* in the late Seventies, and the job brought her into contact with a group of young chefs and restaurateurs who were just beginning to make their mark on the local dining scene. At first, Brinckman picked up hostess shifts at eateries such as Basil's after days at the office, but she eventually gave in to the allure of the restaurant world and went to work at Green Pastures Restaurant. "I started in the savory kitchen there for about \$5 an hour and then moved into the bakery. Working for two years with a pastry chef named Andy Cook who had graduated from the CIA was really good training," she recalls. Over the next 20 years, Brinckman would work in several

Austin kitchens, honing her skills and learning from chefs and co-workers along the way. She also drew inspiration from such authors as Maida Heatter (a shared heroine), Gaston Lenôtre, Julia Child, Jacques Pépin, Wolfgang Puck, Alice Waters, and Nancy Silverton.

In 2004, Brinckman went to work for Tracy Claros, who was just getting her Sticky Toffee Pudding Co. off the ground. The Englishwoman was an accomplished home cook with some good recipes and a business vision; Brinckman was a seasoned baker with years of commercial production experience. The working relationship would be beneficial for both women. "Melissa was with me for almost three years, and the fact that she had production experience made such a big difference in the beginning. I will always be grateful for her help and support," Claros says. Brinckman not only helped Claros turn out the puddings that would soon show up on shelves at Whole Foods and Central Market, but she also helped produce the scones, quiches, and cinnamon buns sold in Claros' original booth at the Downtown Farmers' Market. When the remarkable growth of the pudding business outgrew the need for a booth at the market, Claros encouraged Brinckman to take over the spot. "Tracy told me she was going to stop doing the market and suggested that I apply



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

for the spot, really giving me her blessing," Brinckman recalls.

It took Brinckman a while to put together the money for a solo venture, locate kitchen space at Just Add Chef, and get her city permits in line. Her Cake & Spoon Baking Company debuted at the Downtown market in August 2009. Shoppers were enthusiastic about having some of their favorite baked goods available there again, and Brinckman enjoyed becoming part of the market community. "As members of the market, we're encouraged to purchase ingredients from other vendors there, so I get my eggs from Smith & Smith, I use Larry Kocurek's bacon, sausage made from Richardson's pork, Round Rock Honey, and seasonal

fruits, nuts, and vegetables from different farms. Our ingredients cost more, but we're proud of the local flavors and the quality of the product," she explains. She now operates booths at the Downtown, Sunset Valley, and Triangle farmers' markets every week. Figuring out how much product to prepare for the weekly markets is a challenging proposition. Prepare too little and some customers go away disappointed; bake too much and the goods won't hold up until next week.

Business growth recently made it necessary for Cake & Spoon to relocate, and now Brinckman and her assistant John Avila are busy baking in the 2 Dine 4 kitchen where she once worked with Claros. "We're so glad to have Melissa back here. It's great to have such a good baker in the building. She's already made some wonderful desserts for our Supper Friends parties, and she'll be baking some wedding cakes for our customers after the first of the year," says 2 Dine 4 owner Stephen Shallcross. The Cake & Spoon product line now includes rustic scones, savory quiches, delicious fruit tarts, cinnamon buns, and cookies that sell at the markets, Cafe Caffeine, and the Zhi Tea Gallery. Brinckman's tangy key lime tarts are a big hit at Franklin Barbecue, and she fills the occasional order for dainty fresh-fruit tarts for the chef at the InterContinental Stephen F. Austin hotel. "We would actually like to do more custom baking, taking special orders for things that people could pick up at the market. That worked very well at Thanksgiving," Brinckman asserts.

For now, she's satisfied to continue learning her craft and working in synergy with other food artisans at both the markets and the kitchen. Her long-term dream, however, does include a little retail space to call her own. As long as she's selling those lemon tarts, I'm there.

— Virginia B. Wood

Barrie Cullinan Baked Goods



I first became aware of Barrie Cullinan's work when she was the head baker at Enoteca and Vespaio. Her almond croissants, colossal in size, yet light as air; her rich and flaky fresh-raspberry-and-crème-anglaise napoleons; her pistachio-studded cannoli — they were all a cut above the offerings of rival bakeries and restaurants. I lamented when Enoteca stopped offering breakfast and the pastries that defined it, and it wasn't until I stopped into La Boîte more than a year later that I recognized her work in its bakery case. I must emphasize that point: Upon tasting the croissants at La Boîte, I actually recognized them as the work of a particular baker! That's how talented Barrie Cullinan is: You cannot mistake her work for that of a lesser pastry chef. Her touch is unmistakable.

Educated at Peter Kump's New York Cooking School (now the Institute of Culinary Education), Cullinan originally thought she'd be following the traditional chef career path. "I did the whole culinary program, but I found myself increasingly interested in baking," she relates. "Which is funny, because I was originally a little afraid of it! After I graduated, I went

to work for Claudia Fleming at Gramercy Tavern, and it was she who really inspired me." Fleming, named the 2000 Pastry Chef of the Year by the James Beard Foundation, recognized Cullinan's talent and was very sorry to lose her when Cullinan moved to Texas in 2001.

After a brief stint at Quack's, she was hired by Vespaio as head baker in 2003. There, she baked her fabulous pastries and oversaw the work of five other bakers until 2008. When she left Vespaio, Cullinan took a year off to travel and further expand her repertoire. "I went to Portland, to San Francisco, to Portland again, and to Paris and London," she relates. "At the time, I was planning to open a combination cookbook store and bakery, and I took the time to check out other businesses operating on that model." But, as the world of print media is going through, to put it mildly, a rough patch, Cullinan decided against that route and opened a wholesale bakery instead.

Cullinan uses the very best ingredients available: Richardson Farms whole wheat flour, Plugrá butter, organic dairy, Real Ale Pale Rye Ale, honey from Boggy Creek Farm, Dai Due breakfast sausage, local pecans, and King Arthur flour. "I love to bake bread," she says.

"The simplicity of the mixture of water, yeast, flour, and enriching ingredients such as eggs, milk, and butter to make sweetly aromatic bread is a great pleasure for me."

She sells her baguettes, ciabatta, croissants, *pain au chocolate*, brioche, and sandwich rolls, as well as whole wheat, rye, and honey-pecan bread from her website (www.barriebaking.com) and at several outlets around town, each of which carries a portion of her output. Jo's Coffee, La Boîte, and Zhi Tea Gallery sell her croissants and breakfast pastries; Antonelli's Cheese Shop sells her ciabatta; and Farmhouse Delivery offers nearly all she bakes, should you want it delivered. For this year's the holiday season, Cullinan is offering a Holiday Sweets Gift Box, which can be ordered online (\$20) and which is filled with chocolate madeleines, gingersnaps, and pistachio brittle.

What does the future hold? "Right now I am looking for a retail location," says Cullinan. "I want it to be very open and very interactive so the bakers can interact with customers, and we can have classes ... all very friendly. I want to to call it 'Amity Bakery.'" She laughs. "I've got the name; now all I have to do is find the right location!"

— Kate Thornberry



JOHN ANDERSON

Stephanie McClenny, Confituras

www.confifuras.net

At the recent Green Corn Project fundraiser, baker Barrie Cullinan shared a booth with preserves-maker Stephanie McClenny. The pairing of Cullinan's bread with McClenny's exquisite jams was sensational, prompting us to add McClenny and her work to our holiday coverage. Almost two years ago, McClenny decided to teach herself how to make preserves, focusing on locally sourced fruits, produce, and herbs. Confituras, her line of seasonal products, debuted in September at area farmers' markets, and in three short months, her spectacular jams and preserves have generated not only a slew of positive press but even national recognition: Her Texas fig preserves were chosen as a finalist at the Good Food Awards – the only Texas product to be so honored.

McClenny starts with our amazing Central Texas produce, such as red plums, blueberries, and Fredericksburg peaches and heirloom tomatoes, and makes jams, jellies, fruit butters, preserves, and confits in the Spanish and French fashions. "I don't overcook the fruit," she explains. "The preserves retain fresh flavor; they stay lighter and brighter than typical recipes." She also uses Round Rock Honey, organic local herbs, and other sustainable and organic ingredients whenever possible.

Bestsellers have included her salted-caramel pear butter, heirloom-tomato jam, and fig-and-walnut conserve. "It is hard to say what exactly my bestsellers have been, because we sell out nearly every weekend!" she laughs. Going into the holiday season, she'll be stocking cranberry-jalapeño jelly, ruby-red grapefruit marmalade, Meyer-lemon curd and marmalade, salted-caramel pear butter, and pear jam with Round Rock Honey and fresh sage (4-ounce jars, \$4; 8-ounce jars, \$7). Confituras can be found at the Barton Creek, Downtown, and Triangle farmers' markets; Antonelli's Cheese Shop; Whip In; Breed & Co.; and La Boîte; and products are available through Farmhouse Delivery and the Confituras website. – K.T.

Xmas Day Feasts Around Town

Whether you observe the holiday or not, Austin offers plenty of variety for going out on Christmas Day. Don't forget to call ahead for reservations well before the big day.

HOTELS

DRISKILL HOTEL offers its usual lavish mezzanine brunch with seatings from 11am to 4pm. Downstairs, the 1886 Cafe will be open all day, serving brunch until 2:30pm. Mezzanine brunch: \$62 per person, \$31 for children under 12, free for children 6 and under. 604 Brazos, 391-7121 for reservations.

TRIO AT THE FOUR SEASONS offers a special holiday buffet from 11am to 8:30pm in Trio and from 11am to 6:00pm in the Four Seasons ballroom, Champagne included. Trio seating: \$75 for adults, \$20 for children ages 6-11. Ballroom seating: \$68 for adults, \$20 for children ages 6-11. 98 San Jacinto, 685-8300.

INTERCONTINENTAL STEPHEN F. AUSTIN Enjoy a brunch in the Cafe Julienne from 11am to 2:30pm. 701 Congress, 721-2008 for reservations.

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Banderas – A Texas Bistro will have a few extra specials on the à la carte menu from 11am to 2pm, as well as the usual breakfast menu starting at 6am and a dinner service from 5 to 10pm. 9721 Arboretum Blvd., 343-2626 for reservations.

HYATT REGENCY AUSTIN You'll find a Christmas buffet in the Southwest Bistro where you can count on flowing mimosas from 11:30am to 4pm. \$54 for adults, \$27 for children ages 5-12, free for children under 5. 208 Barton Springs Rd., 480-2035 for reservations.

ASIAN

KOBE JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE See your holiday repast prepared tableside here, with a full dinner menu available from 11am to 9pm. 13492 Hwy. 183 N. #380, 288-7333.

CHINATOWN Catch the dim sum cart as it glides by like Santa's sleigh full of surprises from 11am to 2:30pm. 3407 Greystone, 343-9307.

DIN HO CHINESE BBQ will be open for what some say is the best roast duck in town, in addition to the usual favorites. 10am-10pm. 8557 Research #116, 832-8788.

DRAGON GATE BY PHOENIX This meticulous sushi spot will be open from 5 to 10:30pm on Christmas Day. 3801 Capital of TX Hwy. N. Ste. J-180, 732-7278.

SHANGHAI CHINESE RESTAURANT will be pushing the dim sum cart your way from 11am to 2pm. 6718 Middle Fiskville, 458-8088.

FIRST CHINESE B-B-Q always serves up their generous Cantonese-style specialties on holidays. 11am-9:30pm. 10901 N. Lamar #401, 835-8889.

HUNAN LION Put some spice in your holiday with the Firecracker Prawns. 10:30am-10pm. 4006 S. Lamar #1000, 447-3388.

PEONY ASIAN CUISINE Regulars and newcomers alike will be glad to have this rich miso soup on a cold holiday. 5308 Balcones, 459-3341.

TC NOODLE HOUSE has you covered for lunch with their regular menu between 10:30am and 3pm. 10901 N. Lamar Ste. B-203, 873-8235.

T&S CHINESE RESTAURANT invites you to celebrate with dim sum service from 11am to 2:30pm. 10014 N. Lamar, 339-8434.

SUSHI JAPON is open on Christmas from 11:30am to 11pm. 6801 N. I-35, 323-6663.

KOREAN GRILL will be serving your nontraditional Asian favorites from 11am to 5pm. 10901 N. Lamar, 339-0234.

CHINA CAFE will offer a menu full of Cantonese treats from 5 to 10pm. 13729 Research #695, 331-7747.

FORTUNE CHINESE SEAFOOD RESTAURANT makes a drive up north worth it for what some say is the best dim sum service in town. 10901 N. Lamar Ste. A1-501, 490-1426.

LE SOLEIL will have its 200-item menu in front of you in a heartbeat from 10am to 10pm on Christmas Day. 9616 N. Lamar #156, 821-0396.

OTHER RESTAURANTS

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT is already fully booked for this annual Christmas Day brunch; waitlist spots are still available. 11am-2pm. \$60 for adults, \$30 for children ages 5-12. 811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747.

THREADGILL'S It's first come, first served for a limited menu at both locations from 10:30am to 9:30pm. 6416 N. Lamar, 451-5440; 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304.

KATZ'S DELI & BAR You know that Katz's never closes, so hit it up on Christmas for roast turkey breast, giblet gravy, and all the trimmings. \$16.95 for adults, \$6.95 for children. 618 W. Sixth, 472-2037.

CARMELO'S offers an enormous buffet of Italian specialties for \$34.95 per person. 11am-3pm. 504 E. Fifth, 477-7497.

MANNY'S UPTOWN KITCHEN will serve the entire menu for breakfast, lunch, or dinner on Christmas Day for the ninth consecutive year. 9503 Research #650, 794-0088.

CHARLIE'S AUSTIN serves up its 28th free Christmas Day dinner with a two-drink minimum. 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481.

FOGO DE CHAO has a Brazilian feast waiting for you and yours from 4:30 to 10pm. 309 E. Third, 472-0220.

See full listings for these restaurants and thousands of others – reviews, awards, current listings, links to coupons, and more – at the Austin Chronicle Restaurant Guide: austinchronicle.com/restaurant.



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SCREENS

Make Way for Midseason Shows

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

We're nearing the new
year, and that means new TV.
Here's a sampling of shows
I'm looking forward to:

ABC's reboot of *V* returns
for a second season Jan. 4.
We learned at the end of
the first season that the
visitors (the Vs) are not so
friendly, but what do they
want? The answer comes
pretty quickly at the begin-
ning of the second sea-
son. A few new characters
are introduced, including
Dr. Sidney Miller (*Reaper*'s

Bret Harrison), a young
academic whose research may out the Vs in
a way that could threaten his life. I liked the
injection of some unexpected and welcome
humor into the first episode back; it takes
the edge off that whole "evil aliens from
outer space here to conquer humans" prem-
ise. **Morena Baccarin** as Anna, the leader of
the Vs, is still mesmerizing. And this season,
it looks like her frosty facade will be chal-
lenged by the unexpected consequences of
walking around in human skin. It may even
cause insurrection in her ranks.

The Cape (NBC) premieres Jan. 9 in a
special two-hour pilot. The network is
not giving up much more to me (as
a designated reviewer) than it is to
the general public, but I like what
I see.

Where we start: When he's
framed for a crime he didn't com-
mit, a good-hearted dad (played
by *ER*'s **David Lyons**) goes under-
ground and becomes *The Cape*, the
hero of his young son's favorite comic
book. I'm drawn in by how our hero, Vince
Faraday (aka *The Cape*), is just a regular guy;
it's his determination to make his way back
to his family that awakens his superpower.
And I'm liking his skills with a cape, which
he picks up thanks to a clan of carnies
and their knowledge of all things magic.
I'm also very happy to see **Summer Glau**
(*Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*)
back on the small screen.

Louis C.K.: Hilarious (Comedy Central)
debuts Jan. 9. Not to be confused with his
very funny and strangely endearing sitcom
on FX (*Louie*, recently renewed for a sec-
ond season), this stand-up special features
the irreverent comedian telling the unvar-
nished truth about life, love, parenthood,
middle-aged sex, and anything else he sets
his jaundiced eye on. *Louis C.K.: Hilarious*
was the first stand-up concert film to
screen at Sundance — it played at the film
festival last January — and it won rave



NBC's *The Cape*

reviews as well as bubbling interest in this
comedian who, after several false starts on
the small screen, appears to finally be gain-
ing some traction.

David E. Kelley (*Ally McBeal*, *Boston
Legal*) returns to prime-time TV with a new
dramedy, NBC's *Harry's Law* (premier-
ing Jan. 17). When she's fired from her
high-powered law firm, middle-aged Harriet
"Harry" Korn (**Kathy Bates**) is forced to
start anew. Along the way, she picks up some
slightly damaged folk and sets up her own
law firm. I love that a middle-aged woman

who looks like the majority of the
world's middle-aged women gets
to be the centerpiece of this
series. Bates brings substance
and significant acting chops
to what could be another run-
of-the-mill law drama. Feisty,
funny, and frank, this may
be the best thing Kelley has
churned out in his long career. Or
not. Do we really need another law
drama? Will audiences embrace Bates as a
lead character? With her formidable career
and her recent, memorable turn on *The
Office*, I'm thinking "yes."

As promised, more on *The Calling*
(PBS): I finally got to see the second half
of this two-part, four-hour special about
the spiritual journeys of American clergy
from different faiths. While part one was
compelling, the second half was perhaps
too much of a good thing. While intriguing,
two new subjects are introduced in part two
of the documentary, blurring the original,
tight focus and delaying the resolution of
the original subjects, specifically Bob Pene,
a Samoan minister whose path is detoured
when life-changing events force him to con-
front the push-pull of his Western faith and
his Samoan roots. *The Calling* airs Dec. 20
& 21 at 8pm on PBS.

Follow TV Eye on Twitter: @ChronicleTVEye.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com.

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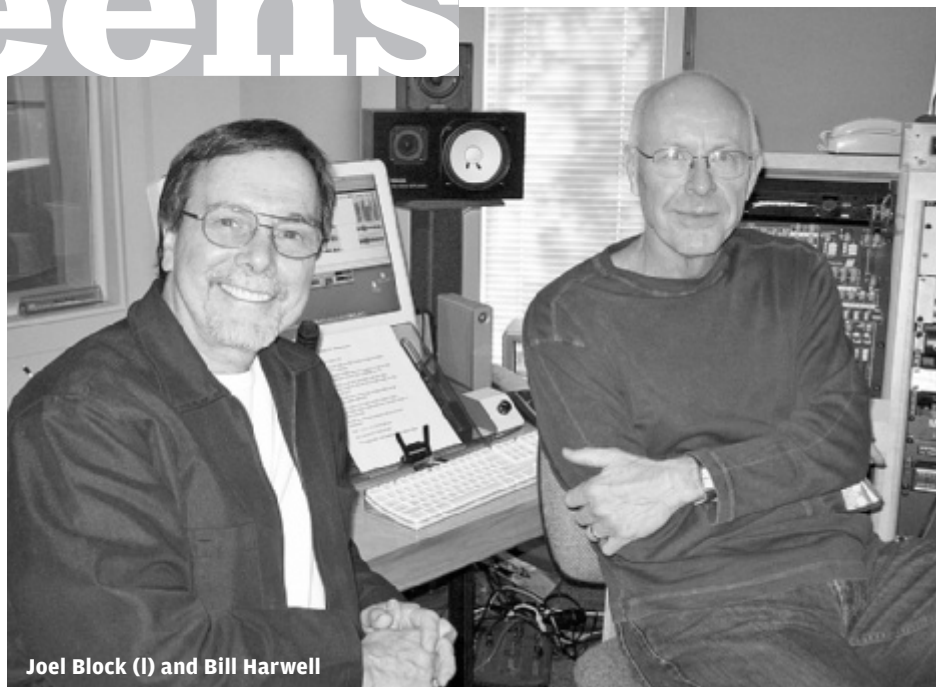
Austin audio production firm the Production Block closes up shop after 35 years

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

If you've watched *King of the Hill* or the 1991 remake of *Cape Fear*, or listened to NPR's long-running *EarthSky* series, or caught a political campaign ad, you may have heard the work of Austin's original voiceover studio, the Production Block. Now, after 35 years of providing recording facilities for the local film and advertising community, founder Joel Block is unplugging the mics for the last time. "I'm just ready to do a little less shaking hands with insurance agents," he explained.

The glamour bit of the business would be ADR – that's automated dialogue replacement – necessary when filmmakers suddenly realize that a line was muffled or delivered incorrectly or ruined by a passing car, requiring re-recording. That's what's brought A-listers like Tommy Lee Jones and Sandra Bullock into the studio. The Block's production engineer Bill Harwell said, "It sounds pretty exciting, and there were some pretty high-profile people involved in it sometimes, but I'll be honest, those sessions are not much fun to do at all." Often the session gets booked months after shooting has finished, Harwell said, so when the actor arrives, "he's in a totally different character, on a totally different project, and he's totally forgotten about the offending role. So the first thing he'll say is, 'What movie is this now?'"

As the stack of "happy trails!" e-mails from local ad firms and small film companies on



Joel Block (l) and Bill Harwell

Block's desk shows, the firm's real impact has been in repeat work for radio series, state agencies, and advertising firms. Harwell said, "What Joel saw the niche for was people who wanted to go a little more upscale in their production values." In the age of prosumer equipment and free AV-editing software, it's hard to imagine how revolutionary having an independent facility like the Production Block was in a small media market like Austin in 1974. Harwell said, "Now [studios are] a dime a dozen, but back in those days, if you wanted to record a commercial, your options were record it at the radio station or record it at the TV station."

With retirement beckoning and the changing market growing more competitive, Block and Harwell have just dismantled the first of their three Pro Tools recording studios. The

equipment has changed a lot since Block's first home studio of two eight-input Sony boards with no equalization and a 6-inch-by-9-inch car speaker for monitoring. Since those early days, Harwell said that the biggest change hasn't been Austin's growth as a production center but "the switch from analog to digital gear." When they started, a studio-quality tape-to-tape system cost around \$80,000, and a mixing console ran for around \$100,000. Now, Harwell said, "You can go to the Apple store and get tricked out for three grand." While that changing technology has made life easier and cheaper for the Production Block, it's also meant that everyone's a producer now. "The business has got quite diluted over the years," said Block. "So many people can do it in their own home now." ■

1001 VIDEO GAMES YOU MUST PLAY BEFORE YOU DIE

edited by Tony Mott

Universe Publishing, 960 pp., \$36.95

Universe Publishing apparently has a thing for numerology. It's given the 1,001 treatment to not only video games, but books, songs, albums, and beer. And while limiting the number of songs that must be heard to four digits would obviously be an interminable struggle, I wonder if there wasn't a bit of scrambling to find 1,001 truly noteworthy video games.

Not to sound like a game snob, but six entries for *Resident Evil* and the original *Excitebike* gets snubbed? But isn't that the draw of list-oriented bathroom books such as this: Everybody loves to debate the intelligence of writers and editors who would dare include the overrated "X" and neglect to mention the brilliance of "Y." It's human nature.

The book's creators decided against ranking the entries, instead separating the games according to decade. The entries are listed in order of their release dates and include basic info and approximately



in
print

200 words describing the games and their merits. The book starts out strong with a history lesson detailing the 1970s foundation-laying games, followed by an exploration of the creative explosion of the 1980s. What's most compelling about these early titles and the stories behind them is that developers couldn't meet or defy expectations, because there were none.

It's a shame that these two decades only get the reader to page 177 of 960, especially since the book's readability tapers off as the Nineties approach. It goes without saying that the latter years of game culture are lousy with truly great titles and the writers who have been wrangled for this compendium are some of the best. But by the time you get to writing about the *Final Fantasy* series for the 11th time, there really just isn't much left to say. The blurbs start to blur together, and the reader finds skimming the titles and perusing the vibrant pictures more rewarding than dipping into the description of *Rebelstar: Tactical Command*. It's also interesting to note that the releases included in the chapter devoted to 2010 look surprisingly similar to the 8-bit titles of gaming's early days. Coincidence?

There are gems throughout and lesser-known titles readers will want to hunt down (many are downloadable on modern systems), but *1001 Video Games* ultimately serves as a nostalgia trip in gaming's DeLorean, especially for those of us old enough to remember playing *Moon Patrol* in the Eighties.

— James Renovitch

film flam

BY KIMBERLEY JONES

If you haven't been paying attention to our Screens blog, Picture in Picture – and you really should; it comes in *color* – then you've missed an awful lot of news lately. Consider this the new clearinghouse. First up, a whole passel of Austin filmmakers have nabbed serious accolades recently. The Independent Spirit Awards recognized **Anish Savjani** with a nomination for the Piaget Producers Award for his work on Kelly Reichardt's *Meek's Cutoff*, while *Lovers of Hate*, written and directed by **Bryan Poyser**, received a nod for the John Cassavetes Award. (Poyser will have an easy commute to the Santa Monica, Calif., awards ceremony in February; he's currently hunkered down at **Mark Duplass** and **Katie Aselton's** L.A. digs working on new scripts while on sabbatical from his day job as the **Austin Film Society's** director of artist services.) Meanwhile, the Sundance Film Festival tapped a chosen few locals to screen in Park City, Utah, in January, including **Jeff Nichols**, who reteamed with **Michael Shannon** for his second feature, *Take Shelter*, as well as the **Zellner Bros.** and **David Lowery**, who are taking new shorts to the fest. And finally, filmmaker and University of Texas faculty member **Anne Lewis** won – egads! – a \$50,000 fellowship from the national arts foundation United States Artists for her work on socially conscious documentaries like *Morristown: In the Air and Sun...* In less celebratory news, the **Texas Film Commission** – already in flux after the surprise resignation of head honcho **Bob Hudgins** amid a sexual harassment inquiry – denied film incentive funds to **Robert Rodriguez's** "Mexploitation" film *Machete*, citing a much-mocked provision in the 2007 incentives bill (House Bill 1634) that bars funding to film or TV with "inappropriate content or content that portrays Texas or Texans in a negative fashion." Further irony? **Gov. Rick Perry** signed a revised incentives bill, HB 873, into law at Rodriguez's Troublemaker Studios in 2009. As incentive programs around the country fall prey to economic woes, one can't help but wonder if Texas' hard-fought program will be fighting for its life when the Lege goes back into session come January... But let's not end on a downer, eh? It may only be December – a shockingly festival-free month in Austin's packed calendar – but it's never too soon to start thinking South by Southwest, which kicks off March 11. To that end, the Film Festival announced today that **Duncan Jones**, a SXSW '09 alum (*Moon*), will be returning to SXSW to open the Festival with his new film, *Source Code*, a sci-fi actioner starring **Jake Gyllenhaal**. You can check out the trailer – where else? – online at austinchronicle.com/pip. ■

Direct tips/comments/complaints here:
filmflam@austinchronicle.com.



JOHN ANDERSON

There's a New Uncle in Town

Harry Knowles wants to reinvent 'Famous Monsters of Filmland' for the digital generation

BY MARC SAVLOV

"Crazy, am I? We'll see whether I'm crazy or not!"

— Colin Clive as Henry Frankenstein in James Whale's *Frankenstein*

Picture this: It's 1958, and you're a red-blooded, adolescent American male with time on your hands and change in your pocket. In the adult world, Bertrand Russell has just launched the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, the dreaded Soviet spy-in-the-sky Sputnik has recently plummeted back to Earth, and the Cold War is beginning to go incandescent. Keeping up with the Joneses suddenly means Dad's digging up the backyard and building a better bomb shelter. The overall mood is one of slowly mounting atomic dread.

But you're a kid. You've got better things to do than bug out about the imminent Commie threat. True, the EC horror comics you and your pals devoured and swapped and loved have been denuded of their ghastly charm thanks to parents' paranoid campaigns to ban them, aided and abetted by some goofy pop psychologist, Dr. Fredric Wertham, whose hated treatise *Seduction of the Innocent* sketchily linked your beloved *Tales From the Crypt* to rampant juvenile delinquency. For sure, *that* sucked. What a dope.

On the other hand, you just peeped the preview for a cool new movie — *The 7th Voyage of Sinbad* in something called Dynamation!

And in *color!* — and it looks like it'll be even better than last year's *20 Million Miles to Earth*, which everyone in your tree fort agreed was the coolest thing ever. Most promising of all, a syndicated package of classic, black-and-white horror movies has just been made available to television stations across the country under the terrific title of Shock! Theater. Suddenly, Mom and Dad's boxy new Zenith is cathode ray-beaming you Karloff and Lugosi, *Frankenstein* and *Dracula*, *The Wolf Man* and *The Mad Doctor of Market Street*. So, hey, things are looking up.

And then, in February 1958, a crazy new magazine turns up at your local soda fountain-cum-candy stand/pharmacy, something called *Famous Monsters of Filmland*. It's all monsters, all the time — pulp-paper pictures of movies you've never ever heard of (dig that crazy robot chick from something called *Metropolis!*) — and even more amazing, it's seemingly written just for you, the kid with the slingshot in your back pocket, the kid who lives and breathes for Saturdays spent in the balcony at the Bijou, the Majestic, the Paramount, the State. It's edited by some guy named Forrest J. Ackerman, or "Forry" for short, and his pun-filled articles on all things monsterific are a gas — laugh-out-loud funny but really informative, and always, always on the side of those ultimate misbegotten, misunderstood misfits, *the monsters*. Kinda like you.

And suddenly, your life is nothing *but* monsters, spaceships (cool Ray Harryhausen ones, not the Commie kind), and "Klaatu barada

nikto." At a time in American history when nothing seemed certain, or even very sane, one thing was for sure: *Famous Monsters of Filmland* was the coolest magazine you'd ever seen, even cooler than *Mad* magazine, which was cool, for sure, but more attuned to your older brother's sensibility than your own. So you stuck with *FM*, hovering around the newsstand every month, waiting for the next ish to hit the racks. And the years flew by, the nukes never came (thank God), and you grew up. But the monsters didn't, and neither did *FM* or good old Uncle Forry, who, as you later learned, coined the term "sci-fi" and regularly palled around with two real-life Ray blasters, the writer Bradbury and the animator Harryhausen.

Famous Monsters of Filmland survived the tumultuous '60s and '70s, and on into the '80s when the most influential magazine of its generation — alongside *Mad*, that is — was eventually done in by the triple threat of the aging of its core readership, the emergence of VHS, and competition from periodical newcomers like *Fangoria*, *Starlog*, and *Cinefantastique*.

FM ceased publication with issue 191 in 1983, and for a generation of "monster kids," it was a dark day, indeed. But during its lengthy run, *FM* changed the course of American pop culture. Many of its earliest readers went on to change the course of American pop culture, too: Peter Jackson, Stephen King, Steven Spielberg, John Landis, George Lucas, Joe Dante, Rick Baker (who won the very

first Academy Award for Best Makeup for his *FM*-influenced work on Landis' *An American Werewolf in London*), and, yes, even honorary Austinite Billy Bob Thornton were all weaned on the pulp-paper pages and "imagi-movies" of *Famous Monsters*. It was a revolution — a mad monster party — while it lasted, but nothing lasts forever and everything dies, including Forrest J. Ackerman, who passed away two years ago, surrounded by friends and fans at his home in Hollywood, Karloffornia.

But if Ackerman's grainy black-and-white brainchild taught us anything, it was that you can't keep a dead thing down — not these days. Kids, and their boomer or Gen X parents, will always love monsters.

Famous Monsters of Filmland is back. And Harry Knowles, Austin's King Geek and the mastermind behind *Ain't It Cool News* and the Alamo Drafthouse's Fantastic Fest, is casting himself as both Henry Frankenstein ("It's alive! It's online!") and Forrest J. Ackerman 2.0.

But in this age of the death of print, how can Knowles ever hope to lasso a magazine demographic that no longer even exists? Kids don't want to read stodgy (or, worse, pun-filled) magazines about Claude Rains in *The Invisible Man*. They want to watch *The Walking Dead* or play *Left 4 Dead* or dress up like a dead thing and flash-mob Whole Foods. Print? It's so over. (Although it should be noted here that Knowles' business partner, filmmaker-cum-publisher Philip Kim, purchased the title and all ancillary rights to *Famous Monsters of Filmland* several years ago and has since launched a new, slick, print version of the magazine.)

"When you read the new print version of *FM*," Knowles says, "it's pretty drily written. If you hand it to a kid like my nephew Giovanni, who's predisposed to like monsters, all that gray print will simply zone him out. It's not built for a kid to pick up or learn from."

"My plan for the online version of *Famous Monsters* is to become an online 'uncle' to an entire group of people who have never read or heard of *Famous Monsters of Filmland*. The site will not be written in a scholarly fashion. It will be written in a playful, 'Hey, check *this* out!' kind of way. One of the things that we'll be building is, essentially, character background charts on all the classic monsters in an easy-to-understand, kid-friendly manner."

At first glance, the notion of hooking kids into this new, online version of *Famous Monsters* sounds like an impossible task. As any parent can attest, kids are already overwhelmed, happily so, with roughly 10,000 other electronic distractions. How to cut through the maelstrom of already-existing Internet content aimed at 10- to 15-year-olds seems not only a valid concern but a fool's errand. It'll have to be something spectacular, something huge, something that no one's ever attempted before. Which is *exactly* what Knowles has in mind.

"The thing is," Knowles continues, "it's going to be more than just the website. To get the audience that I really want — and to create a new, cultural shift for classic monsters, like *FM* did originally — you have to begin plotting and planning everything from animated TV

shows, initiate working with top creators of that sort of media. I've contacted folks like Peter Jackson and [Weta Workshop special-effects head] Richard Taylor to ask them if they'd be interested in creating special products for *FM*, just like the Captain Company did in the back pages of the old *FM*. They said, 'Absolutely.'

Ah, yes, the Captain Company: 20-plus pages of ads for cool, monster-related toys, comics, books, and, famously, the Don Post Studios rubber masks of Tor Johnson, the creature from the Black Lagoon, and other such kidhood gotta-haves. It was, often, the funnest part of reading a new issue of the old *Famous Monsters*.

"One of the reasons so many kids bought *Famous Monsters* was that it gave them ability to order 8mm and Super-8 versions of their favorite monster movies. We're going to be doing that too, only with whole films available for download or streaming."

To that end, Knowles is currently in the process of bringing in major film studios – Universal and its back-catalog of classic horror movies is a must – and aligning himself with all manner of monster-related brands, properties, and, as he puts it, "cool stuff."

But still, how does he plan to attract the kids when they're already overamped on all things online?

"The trick," explains Knowles, "is to make something that appeals to those 40-year-olds who grew up on *Famous Monsters* that they can then introduce to their children and their grandkids. Something that will help them raise their kids in the proper manner while being the good geeks that they ought to be."

"It's all about the tone of the writing. We're not going to be talking down to kids, or be too much like the old *Famous Monsters*, because kids today are obviously much more sophisticated than that. I want to create a kind of new monster language for kids to play with, pick up, and incorporate into their own vocabularies. Beyond that, we want to create a new *Famous Monsters* brand that's bigger and more recognizable than anything previously attempted. We're looking to create a real cultural shift here, online, by introducing kids to monsters and, just like Forry did, showing them that monsters aren't something to be scared of, but something to embrace, something to make a part of their childhood and, eventually, their lives."

Ambitious? Absolutely. Feasible? Probably. Successful? Wait and see.

"What I want is a way to put Universal monster toys back in the aisles alongside *Star Wars* and all the other stuff and introduce today's kids to the classic monsters. I'm not going to be writing for the original *Famous Monsters* readers. I'm not going to be writing for *me*. I've already swallowed the pill, you know? I learned how to read, literally, through *Famous Monsters of Filmland*. It's bound up in my DNA and a huge part of what makes me Harry Knowles. What I'm planning now for *Famous Monsters of Filmland* online? This is for the kids." ■

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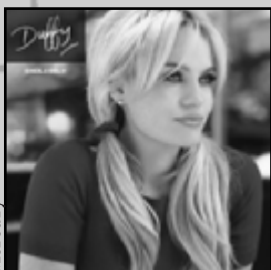
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JANUARY 2011

Year of the Tiger Vol. 5, No. 10 / Jan. 12, 1986. Early on in the paper's history, cartoon artist Michael "Rollo Banks" Malone was not just the Chronicle's cover guy in charge of assignments, he was also one of our favorite cover artists, as well as a much-needed spiritual leader. He moved to Austin from Hawaii bearing strange gifts (Malcolm Greenleaf, married Margaret Moore, and taught much of the Chronicle staff a lot about living. Some after he moved back to Hawaii, he continued to do Chronicle covers for the Chronicle New Year, eventually producing all 12 in the cycle. See the rest of the Chronicle New Year covers on the January 2012 spread at the end of this calendar.

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music

OFF THE RECORD

MUSIC NEWS by Austin Powell

Youth in Revolt

According to Urban Dictionary, **Schmillion** can either mean “more than a lot” or “an awesome all-girl punk rock band from Austin, Texas.” Stick with the latter. Since forming in summer 2009 at the **Girls Rock Camp Austin**, the local teens have helmed a guitar-rock assault to give **Kim Fowley** visions of cherry bombs, recorded a debut EP with **Mike Vasquez** at **Sweatbox Studio**, and earned the first-ever Best U-18 Band honors at last year’s **Austin Music Awards**. Based on online voting, Schmillion also made it to the finals of **SchoolJam**, a national teen battle of the bands, which concludes Jan. 15 in Anaheim, Calif. At stake is a trip to Frankfurt, Germany, for the **SchoolJam Festival** and \$5,000 toward the music programs at the ladies’ schools – the McCallum Fine Arts Academy, the Liberal Arts and Science Academy, and the Griffin School. It might prove one of the band’s last shows as singer **Natalie Shea** gears up for college. “We might have two months or two more years,” shrugs guitarist **Zoe Graham**, stepping out of a study session. “We’ve come a long way in a year, so we’re happy with whatever happens.” Schmillion opens for **Follow That Bird!**, **Sundress**, **Ume**, and **Ringo Deathstarr** at **Emo’s** on Friday, Dec. 17. The following Sunday afternoon, at the same venue, fellow kids-in-the-hall **Edison Chair**, **Avenging Poor Yorick**, **Electric Society**, and **AfterMath** play a benefit for the Austin chapter of NARAS’ Music in Schools Program.



JANA BIRCHUM



AUSTIN POWELL

Arrested Development

Sleepy and craving breakfast tacos, **Mister Heavenly** rolled into the Eastside’s **Big Orange** studio for a **Daytrotter.com** taping on Monday afternoon, the last date of the band’s first tour. “Wait, is everyone taking their shirts off?” asked touring bassist **Michael Cera** before tropical ballad “Pineapple Girl.” They weren’t. Despite the jovial nature of the session, which included at least one request to “turn the trill knob up,” Mister Heavenly – a new collaboration between **Islands’ Nick Diamonds**, **Man Man** piano basher **Honus Honus**, and

Modest Mouse drummer **Joe Plummer** – delivered some surprisingly straight pop tunes with a serious **Roy Orbison** streak and a nod to 1950s doo-wop. The band’s encore at the sold-out **Scout Inn** even included a cover of **Daniel Johnston**’s “True Love Will Find You in the End.” To his credit, Cera proved that his moves in *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World* weren’t the result of mere acting. “On our section in the chorus, let’s have a moment,” Honus directed him in the studio. Cera responded with confidence, “I’ll find you.”

It’s a Wonderful Life

Nothing brings out the musical ghosts of Austin’s Christmas past (**Hank & Shaidri Alrich with Doug Harman**), present (**Uncle Lucius**, **Deadman**, **Suzanna Choffel**), and future (**Sahara Smith**, the **Trishas**) like the **Armadillo Christmas Bazaar**. The annual holiday tradition commemorates its 35th anniversary at **Palmer Events Center** with another impeccable lineup, overseen once more by Austin-Bergstrom International Airport booker **Nancy Coplin**, from now through the **Texana Dames’** yearly closer on Christmas Eve. On the occasion of another appearance, this Sunday, Dec. 19 (noon-2:30pm), **Ray Wylie Hubbard** shared his Top 5 reasons for returning to the Bazaar.

- 5) “It is festive, and about as festive as I want to get.”
- 4) “I love the idea of combining Austin and armadillos and Christmas and bazaars.”
- 3) “The sound is stellar.”
- 2) “The booths are full of arts and crafts rather than arts and crap.”
- 1) “Austin people from the ‘60s and ‘70s who aren’t dead or incarcerated show up.”

Bang a Gong

Dax Riggs jokes that police escorted him out of Louisiana. “I was being harassed and targeted in the small town an hour south of New Orleans that I lived in,” he recalls. “I couldn’t stay at my house and play music for an hour without police knocking at my door.” An Austin resident for close to five years now (“I don’t get out much”), Riggs has had no such trouble locally. His latest Fat Possum outing, *Say Goodnight to the World*, was recorded at his Bee Cave hideout “**T. Rex**-style” (floor tom, tambourine, electric bass, and acoustic guitar). It’s the gothic bluesman’s strongest outing to date, a stirring collection of nighthawk noir and proto-metal groove, a far cry from the sludge metal he helped pioneer with **Acid Bath** and **Agents of Oblivion**, a period Riggs now dismisses as “high school.” “I pray to the god of rock & roll that there would be a metal band that I give a fuck about, but I don’t,” spouts Riggs, who continues his monthlong residency at **Continental Club** on Tuesday, Dec. 21. “I don’t feel like anybody’s doing anything. It’s all gone down the shitter. There was that golden age of thrash and before that the New Wave of British Heavy Metal and then death metal – then it got sold out. Now we’re stuck with these half-ass versions of **Sleep**.”



Dax Riggs

Random Play

● Having romantic issues or roommate quarrels? Tell it to **Oh No Oh My**. Taking a cue from **Mike Jones**, the local indie-pop outfit has set up a hotline, 481-2143, that connects you with one of the band members, in support of their new album, *People Problems*. Be warned, any drunken messages left might be used on the band’s website.

● Local vocal starlet **Kat Edmonson** joins **Lyle Lovett** on *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno* on Friday, sharing the wintry standard “Baby, It’s Cold Outside.” The two have performed the duet together regularly since its debut at the **Bass Concert Hall** last November.

● Earlier this week, **Monahans** released the final installment in its downloadable monthly series, *2010 Recordings*, a stunning, desert-hewn duet with **Sinead O’Connor** called “Seabirds.” “It captures the primary theme that we’re all trying to make sense of this world that’s both beautiful and harsh, but we’re still holding out hope for a meaningful resolution,” relays frontman **Greg Vanderpool**.

● **Atlas Sound**, **Prefuse 73**, **Black Moth Super Rainbow**, and **Spacemen 3** offshoot **Spectrum** have been tapped to headline the **Black Angels’ Austin Psych Fest 4** at the **East Side Drive-In**, April 29-May 1, along with personal favorites the **Fresh & Onlys** and **White Hills**, among others. The **Reverb Appreciation Society** just released a DVD of last year’s tonal holiday, which will be followed in March by a double-vinyl live LP.

● **VideoRanch3D.com**, the simulated realm overseen by **Monkees** operative and acclaimed director **Michael Nesmith**, hosts the second **Global Zone Music Festival** at **Austin Studios** on Saturday, Dec. 18. The interactive affair features a special acoustic set from Nesmith as well **Carolyn Wonderland** and the **Good Listeners**, the subject of the tour documentary *Don’t Quit Your Daydream*, which is being screened throughout the day.



Albums3

DARKNESS ON THE EDGE OF TOWN

Bruce Springsteen's bounty

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

"Many a hand has scaled the grand old face of the plateau." — Meat Puppets, "Plateau"

Lost in translation from black, 12-inch vinyl records to 4¼-inch aluminum compact discs beginning in the mid-1980s was classic rock's double album. *The Beatles* (aka the White Album), Rolling Stones' *Exile on Main St.*, Led Zeppelin's *Physical Graffiti* — sprawling song blasts from the music gods.

Bruce Springsteen's stake into such exclusive ranks, *The River*, at 20 tracks, runs some four minutes too long to fit onto an 80-minute commercial CD. Originally, the album was turned in to Columbia Records as a single disc, only to be second-guessed by its author, who then added to and subtracted from it for another year. "Many songs were cut, and many were judged not up to par," reveals Springsteen in 1998 lyrics catalog *Songs*. *The River* was overflowing.

By contrast, in *Wings for Wheels: The Making of Born To Run* — the documentary for the 2005 deluxe reissue of *Born To Run* — Springsteen recalls spending laborious months birthing the Spectorian title track that ultimately made his name only to realize he still needed to write the rest of the album. Jersey's prolific boardwalk angel grew into his craft as if he owned stock in the spiral-bound notebooks he filled one after another, but according to *The Promise: The Making of Darkness on the Edge of Town*, another long-form DVD doc included here, when the time came to follow up 1975's *Born To Run*, a protracted litigious blackout with the singer's former manager prevented him from releasing records. So he recorded around the clock.

As mined in *The Promise: The Darkness on the Edge of Town Story* box set, which doubles its predecessor's album update by bulking up to no less than six discs (three CDs/three DVDs), the Boss' wrecking crew cut many albums' worth of material before throwing out babies, bathwater, and everything else save 10 tracks on the original 1978 gauntlet, remastered right out of the gate.

"*Darkness* was my 'samurai' record," writes Springsteen in the new set's spiral-bound

notebook, which houses handwritten lyrics, alternate lyrics, countless LP sequences, pictures, you name it. "[S]tripped to the frame and ready to rumble."

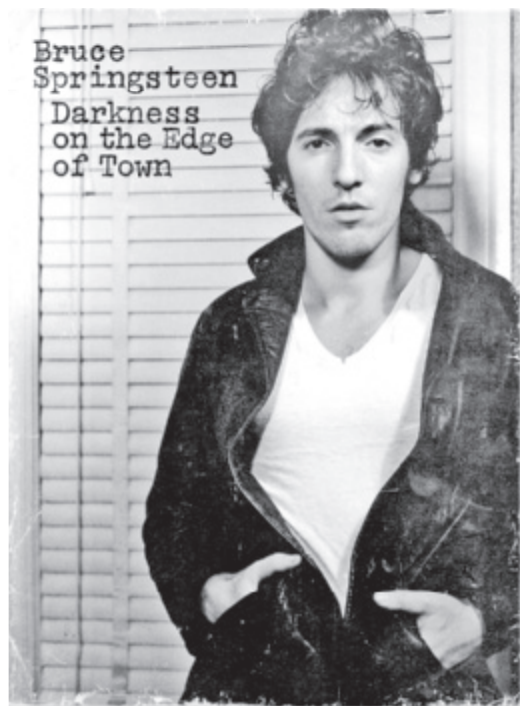
That *Darkness* comes hacked out of the hungry heart of an unimpeded compositional current explains plenty. Springsteen's fourth full-length plays like most of its iceberg is underwater. *Born To Run* is a surface record — the anthems go off like the Fourth of July. *Darkness on the Edge of Town* slums among the best of them ("Streets of Fire"), light and dark and dusk in the middle, where shadows are long and blind spots are around every sharp corner. That's "The Promised Land," "Prove It All Night," and the titular closer, respectively. First in, "Badlands" proves as killing as its 1973 silver-screen precursor by Austinite Terrence Malick. Stark realities inherent to *Nebraska*, which followed *The River*, began gestating in *Darkness*.

A stand-alone set also sold separately, the 2-CD *The Promise*, subtitled *The Lost Sessions: Darkness on the Edge of Town*, unearths an additional 22 cuts. They "could have/should have been released after *Born to Run* and before the collection of songs that became *Darkness on the Edge of Town*," shrugs their Boss daddy, and combined with "the material from *Tracks* that had *Darkness* as its origin and you have upwards of forty songs, four albums." *Tracks* (1998), four CDs' worth of non-LP Springsteen bonanza, could have almost landed "Iceman," "Hearts of Stone," and "Don't Look Back" onto *Darkness*.

Little on *The Promise* conforms to the unblinking sonic verité of *Darkness*, which Springsteen notes, "was also written and recorded at the height of the punk explosion," but its sweeping jingle-jangle avalanches the chain reaction of creative abundance. Its elegiac intro, "Racing in the Street," a band-beat alternate to the album cut, slides into a "Thunder Road" side-street housing the Brill Building snap of "Gotta Get That Feeling," while "Outside Looking In" mimics the muffled thump of Buddy Holly's "Peggy Sue." A gorgeous wall of orchestration on "Someday (We'll Be Together)" anticipates the rapture

At the dawn of the CD-box-set age more than two decades ago, Dylan, Clapton, and the Allmans led with multidisc retrospectives that soon became the industry standard at three or four compact discs. The ensuing Digital Age promised so much more, like 1998's 10-CD *The Complete Hank Williams*. Complete artist catalogs are now de rigueur, from last year's Beatles boxes to 2010's *The Complete Elvis Presley Masters* (Sony/Legacy), a 30-CD box set containing all 711 master recordings cut by the King, plus 103 additional, rare tracks. Problem is, its initial run of 1,000 individually numbered boxes — so low thanks to the astronomical price tag, \$749 — sold out on preorders alone. A second pressing scheduled for shipment on Jan. 17 could well do the same. Instead, the new paradigm, led this fall by boutique collections from Bruce Springsteen, Iggy Pop's Stooges, and David Bowie — reviewed long-form herein — trends toward the many-CD/DVD/LP expansion of single albums. Six hours of Boss video, 26 consecutive takes of "Loose," bootleg Bowie LPs finally gone commercial: The modern box set now lives on in the single LP (and its runoff), currently believed dead by download standards. Not so fast, iTunes.

— Raoul Hernandez



That *Darkness* comes hacked out of the hungry heart of an unimpeded compositional current explains plenty.

between *Born To Run* and *Darkness on the Edge of Town*, its return to "Thunder Road" providing built-in nostalgia. The line "something dyin' down" on the road predicts *The River* closer "Wreck on the Highway." On the box's *Thrill Hill Vault 1976-1978 DVD*, a recording session for "The Promise" delivers even better, though the real standout turns out to be Springsteen and Van Zandt banging out an early version of *The River*'s "Sherry Darling" at the piano, laughing it off as a one-time-only performance. Fat chance.

Darkness' third and last DVD, *Thrill Hill Vault Houston '78 Bootleg: House Cut*, already stars a pair of *The River* break-outs, album opener "The Ties That Bind" and .45 caliber murder ballad "Point Blank," which are here preserved in a three-hour live siege that's positively Baptist. With any luck, the powers that be will pop out a CD counterpart as they did with *Hammersmith Odeon, London '75* from the *Born To Run* box. Live, 1970s Springsteen maintains its own religion.

Equal righteousness inhabits Springsteen & the E Street Band reviving the entirety of *Darkness on the Edge of Town* last December, in (where else?) Asbury Park, at an empty Paramount Theatre. The Bossman gripping his Fender guitar's headstock and wringing feedback at the start of "Adam Raised a Cain" portends his ensuing six-string retribution.

The Clash's 1979 double album, *London Calling*, clocks in at 65 minutes. The London punks, feted by Springsteen this summer on his *London Calling: Live in Hyde Park DVD*, followed it up with a triple album, *Sandinista!* (see "The Magnificent Seven," May 19, 2000). Artistic plateaus normally happen once or twice for acts great and small. Bruce Springsteen built a warehouse there. ■

that became Patti Smith's "Because the Night," here in a somewhat stiff yet still thrilling version by its muse. Unabashed Roy Orbison prom clutch, "The Brokenhearted," and early Greg Kihn adoptee "Rendezvous" accompany *Darkness*' "Candy's Room" spin-off, "Candy's Boy," featuring a front-and-center organ sweep courtesy of the late Danny Federici. *Darkness* it ain't, but *The Promise* delivers.

"Ain't Good Enough for You," on the second disc, with hand claps, gang-boy chorus, and soda fountain bounce, rewrites Gary U.S. Bonds' "This Little Girl," which is actually a Springsteen song, the Boss and henchman Stevie Van Zandt putting together the Detroit soulman's 1981/1982 outings *Dedication* and *On the Line*; the latter rocking seven out of 10 songs penned by Bruce, including "Rendezvous." His stab at "Fire," made famous by Oakland's Pointer Sisters, pulses quick and rockabilly intimate, as if from the same sessions of "Dancing in the Dark" b-side "Pink Cadillac." "It's a Shame" shakes an embryonic proto-blues version of "Prove It All Night," and the two-minute "Come On (Let's Go Tonight)" feels out *Darkness*' "Factory."

"The Promise" itself finally wanders in like a ghost through the Darlington County

CONTINUED ON P.54

JIMI HENDRIX West Coast Seattle Boy: The Jimi Hendrix Anthology (Legacy)

Within young Jimi Hendrix burned an unquenchable fire: the desire to be someone, to make his mark, to imprint the guitar into dimensions unknown. That determination sent him to woodshed with top R&B acts of the day, informing his rock guitar with its bluesy lifeblood. When he died in 1970 at the age of 27, he left much unmapped but little unexplored. *West Coast Seattle Boy: The Jimi Hendrix Anthology* stitches it all together over four CDs and a vivid DVD patchwork of concert and club footage, which blankets its subject in the warm memory of faded photographs and scratchy clips, wailing “Killing Floor” in Paris or bemused as Dick Cavett suggests some people might be offended by his version of “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Alternate takes and pre-solo studio selections here are for casual completists, but are also the most revealing, especially disc one with the guitarist backing Little Richard and Don Covay as well as unknowns Rosa Lee Brooks and the Icemen. Hendrix’s playing is chunky, funky, stylishly solid. Occasionally, as with the Isley Brothers’ “Move Over and Let Me Dance” or Billy Lamont’s “Sweet Thang,” the southpaw sounds so distinctively Jimi that it raises the hair on the back of your neck. Regional blues and soul fans: Here’s Hendrix with Fort Worth’s Ray Sharpe on “Help Me (Get the Feeling) Part 1” and King Curtis for “Instant Groove.” It’s striking how many covers Hendrix performed – both a reminder of his past and that rock & roll, like all teens, imitates – so the Stratocaster master manhandles Howlin’ Wolf’s “Killing Floor,” Chip Taylor’s “Wild Thing,” Bob Dylan’s “Like a Rolling Stone” and “All Along the Watchtower,” and Chuck Berry’s “Johnny B. Goode.” Visual pleasure pops throughout the booklet and DVD, including chatter (“different strokes for different folks” is a favorite), but it’s a little squib Jimi Hendrix wrote on a postcard to his father while in the army that says it all: “P.S. Send my guitar as soon as you can, I really need it now.”

★★★★

– Margaret Moser

BOB DYLAN The Original Mono Recordings (Legacy)

The *Freewheelin’* Bob Dylan, when I first bought it, was monaural – as it was called back then. A few months later, when purchasing 1965’s *Highway 61 Revisited*, I debated whether to upgrade to the stereo version (\$2.99 vs. \$3.69), which I did. In retrospect, it probably made no difference



given the inferior quality of my crappy little record player with its two cheap-ass “stereo” speakers. Then again, most stereo separation tended to be rather crude at best, anyway. In the wake of last year’s transformative Beatles reissues in both remastered stereo and “glorious mono” comes this handsomely packaged and thoroughly annotated 9-CD box set of Dylan’s first eight landmark albums, “as they were expected to be heard,” in mono. How much do the quartet of early, acoustic-guitar and vocal-folk LPs (*Bob Dylan*, *Freewheelin’*, *Another Side of Bob Dylan*, and *The Times They Are A-Changin’*) differ in the two formats? Not much. What most intrigued me was how the electric albums, starting with half of *Bringing It All Back Home* (1965), *Highway 61 Revisited* (‘65), *Blonde on Blonde* (‘66), and *John Wesley Harding* (‘67), would sound in mono instead of stereo, given their more dynamic range and sonic variation. Compared to my stereo vinyl, the tracks tend to separate the instruments on either channel, keeping Dylan and his harmonica in the middle – out front. The mono versions here are less spacious but more forcefully direct, as if blasting out of your car radio, which, not coincidentally, was how we first heard these songs. There’s something to be said for both, and it largely depends on your preference. Make no mistake, though: In either format, this is the mother lode, a monumental collection that irrevocably changed the course of popular music and global culture.

★★★★

– Jay Trachtenberg

HANK WILLIAMS The Complete Mother’s Best Recordings ... Plus! (Time Life)

Modern audiences are very rarely granted a trip to 1951 in a way that seems new. That’s what these recordings of Hank Williams, literally rescued from a dust bin at Nashville’s WSM radio, offer. Over the course of 15 compact discs and a DVD – more than 18 hours worth – you hear and know Williams in a way that was previously unthinkable. Mother’s Best sponsored a 15-minute radio show that featured the country star with his band the Drifting Cowboys at the peak of his career. It aired early morning, but since he and the band were often on the road, they recorded the shows on 16-inch acetates that were aired as if they were live in the radio studio. Surface noise is occasionally audible, but overall the sound here is exceptional. Williams comes across as a quick-witted charmer, opening up about his life in a most disarming manner. He sings unexpected selections like “Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain,” “Cool Water,” “Cherokee Boogie,” and “On Top of Old Smoky,” but predictably includes a solemnly rendered gospel number in each show. Besides the treasure trove of music, the packaging here is unusual and impressive. Housed in a replica table radio typical of the time which actually plays snippets of the contents, the set includes a 108-page book with a foreword by Hank Williams Jr. and an afterword



by daughter Jett Williams, a 25,000-word essay by biographer Colin Escott, and unpublished photographs courtesy of Marty Stuart. The DVD offers Jett in an emotional interview with “Big Bill” Lister, who traveled with Williams and served as his opening act, plus Drifting Cowboys steel guitarist Don Helms and WSM engineer Glenn Snoddy. Sixty years on, this set increases Williams’ recorded output by half and proves yet again why Hank still matters.

★★★★

– Jim Caligiuri

SLAYER The Vinyl Conflict (American/Sony)

The petroleum platter’s improbable comeback here crowns a genre propagated in the 1980s by cassettes, a sticker on *The Vinyl Conflict*’s shrink-wrap bearing the better part of Slayer’s grooved recoronation: “All 10 American Recordings albums remastered from the original analog tapes on 180-gram audiophile vinyl.” Compact discs don’t give the L.A. thrash metal quartet much bass response, but on Rick Rubin’s greatest production trifecta – *Reign in Blood* (1986), *South of Heaven* (1988), and *Seasons in the Abyss* (1990) – vinyl’s tautness allows the music to get inside your hockey mask without shredding the ear holes. Tom Araya’s bass pops like Motown, a heartbeat beat again by Dave Lombardo’s slave-ship drum lash. Closing *Reign in Blood* with the hara-kiri title track, then segueing into *South of Heaven*’s opening namesake underscores the dark magic of metal’s Beatles. Double-LP *Decade of Aggression Live* (1991) loses the packaging award to its black-metal-CD-case counterpart, and while “Dead Skin Mask” bleeding into “Seasons in the Abyss” will melt your turntable cover at the end of the second side, multiple sources on the second record stem the molten flow of the first disc. Produced by the band, 1994’s *Divine Intervention* suffers disjointed speed-cacophony despite the ensuing tour proving the veracity of “Killing Fields,” “Dittohead,” and “213.” Tempos double to hardcore on *Undisputed Attitude* (1996), Slayer’s punk Jeff Hanneman trying his hand at aggro spews (“Can’t Stand You”) among covers of D.I., a Minor Threat (“Guilty of Being White”), and dog-awful Stooges BM, “I’m Gonna Be Your God.” Rubin drops the ball on 1998’s *Diabolus in Musica*, with its homogenous alt-rock (hello, Soundgarden), so he’s out for *God Hates Us All* three years later, a ranting return to form despite few hooks (“Bloodline”) and little bass response. *Christ Illusion* (2006), with its original LP art restored, and last year’s *World Painted Blood* complete Slayer’s nü-millennial triplepeat.

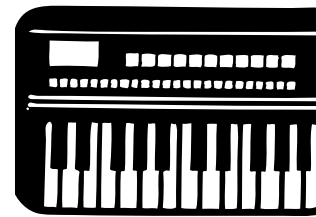
★★★★

– Raoul Hernandez

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FUN HOUSE

The Stooges roll a seven

BY AUSTIN POWELL

On paper, it reads like a Guantánamo Bay interrogation technique. Rhino Handmade's 1970: *The Complete Fun House Sessions* offers 26 consecutive takes of "Loose" in the order in which the Stooges recorded them at L.A.'s Elektra Sounds Recorders in May 1970, from the top every time, false starts and studio banter included. The episode lasts more than 80 minutes. Even Iggy Pop tires momentarily.

"Take 107," he cracks after the 21st attempt. "Let's just put out a single and not an album. Just a single of this. We'll work on it all month."

"How 'bout an album with 22 takes of 'I'm Loose?'" counters engineer Brian Ross-Myring, referring to the song by its original title. He got the last laugh.

1970: *The Complete Fun House Sessions* reproduces the entire recorded history of the Stooges' landmark second album, the last to feature the original lineup of Pop, guitarist Ron Asheton, his brother/drummer Scott Asheton, and late bassist Dave Alexander, who was fired in August of that same year. The box set expands the original 36 minutes of primal idiocy into a nearly eight-hour-long modern marvel, sequencing the 12 used tape reels across six CDs. A seventh slip-disc replicates the radio single "Down on the Street" b/w "I Feel Alright (1970)," right down to the overdubbed organ on the a-side, unofficially credited to producer and former Kingsmen Don Gallucci.



There's not a nook or cranny Iggy Pop doesn't attempt to squirm into vocally.

The overall effect's akin to hitting a hot streak in Vegas: It locks you into its own unshakable rhythm, a proto-punk mantra repeating over and over and over again. Limited to 3,000 numbered copies upon its release in 1999, the boutique collection was recently reissued after being voted one of the best compilations ever assembled by Rhino Handmade, the highly collectable and Internet-only specialty division of Rhino Records.

Rumors persist that the Doors watched these sessions through the studio's two-way mirror. It makes sense. The Stooges' eponymous 1969 debut boasted serious credentials in the form of producer John Cale from the Velvet Underground, while Iggy's heathen antics were already thrusting into legend.

That the Ann Arbor, Mich.-based outfit added tenor saxophonist Steven Mackay to the fold in response to the Doors' "Touch Me" only bolsters the claim.

Suffice it to say, *The Complete Fun House Sessions* offers the next best thing to Peeping Tom with Jim Morrison, a brutally detailed look into the chaos and creation of a true masterpiece. The concept's normally reserved for jazz titans like Miles Davis, with the collections serving as understudies to the various players involved or examinations of the tape manipulation techniques of producer Teo Macero. From a historical perspective, this sort of audio voyeurism's fascinating, eavesdropping as tempos subtly shift and the lyrics, particularly for "Down on the Street" and "TV Eye," continue to evolve. According to the liner notes, the unfinished "Lost in the Future" was a surprise find to all parties involved, a completely forgotten blues dirge that would've made an excellent b-side.

Truly revelatory is just how long and forcefully the Stooges work at pinning down the band's kerosene vision — an instant boiling-point intensity is reached and, more importantly, maintained for the duration of the sessions. Iggy proves a Cirque du Soleil-level contortionist throughout. There's not a nook or cranny he doesn't attempt to squirm into vocally. In the fifth take of "1970," he actually starts growling, practically foaming at the mouth as Ron Asheton and Mackay violently spur each other to the near six-minute peak.

Each installment boasts a slightly different feel. The first disc works out most of the kinks, serving as a near-complete rough draft of the album to come. The inexplicable "Loose" marathon dominates the second and

third discs. The fourth CD cues the ultimate Saturday night rock album, the dynamite lust and masculine adrenaline of "TV Eye" on repeat 14 incendiary times before the band launches into the shake appeal of "1970."

The entire set peaks with the second and third takes of "Fun House" from disc No. 5, a nuclear detonation of primordial punk-fury, abrasive R&B, and voltaic jazz that not even the Prince of Darkness could summon. Like so much on *The Complete Fun House Sessions*, both pose two equally difficult questions: "Why was another take even necessary?" and "How the hell did this cut not make it onto the original album?"

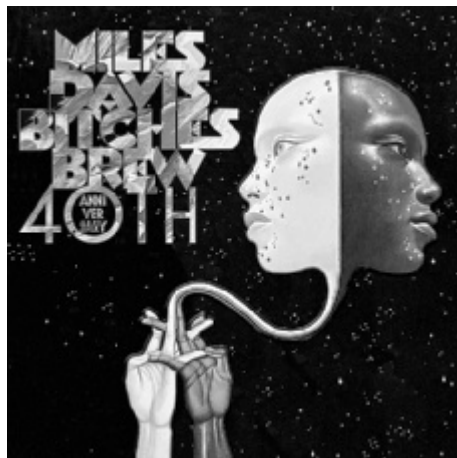
Disc six concludes with a downward spiral, presenting 10 of 12 total takes of grunge precursor "Dirt" that empty into the confrontational noise vacuum of "Freak," an 18-minute maelstrom of free jazz and feral frustration that was edited into the album's final 4:55 send-off, "L.A. Blues." Think of it as a 6-foot crawl into the grave.

The Stooges nail "Dirt" right out of the box, a harrowing account of addiction and desperation woven into European noir and American blues. Iggy performs each take with scarring intensity, transforming into a loner taunting death's approach. In fact, you'd be hard-pressed to determine which selection was ultimately pressed to vinyl — Alexander's skulking bass and Scott Asheton's wobbly rhythms cast each murky scene — but only in the last take does a second guitar enter near the five-minute mark. Its hypnotic repetition lends an eerie otherness to the procession.

That's when it finally reaches perfection. ■

CONTINUED ON P.56

BOX SETS CONTINUED FROM P.53



MILES DAVIS

***Bitches Brew: 40th Anniversary* (Sony/Legacy)**

A singular act of erotic liberation and psychedelic transformation, *Bitches Brew* crowns Miles Davis' electric era. Radical and prophetic, the 1970 masterpiece created its own Creole language, a divine concoction of ultra jazz-funk, defiantly black R&B, and revolutionary rock & roll, masterfully assembled by producer Teo Macero. The sessions featured a village of vanguard fusionists — saxophonist Wayne Shorter (Weather Report), pianist

Chick Corea (Return to Forever), and guitarist John McLaughlin (Mahavishnu Orchestra) for starters — what Greg Tate in his extensive liner terms as a "jazz hybrid of Oppenheimer's Manhattan Project and the Cuban Revolution — a band part thermonuclear think tank, part guerrilla brigade." As such, the work has been reissued in every conceivable fashion, most notably 1998's 4-CD *The Complete Bitches Brew Sessions*, which in turn was recently bundled into *The Genius of Miles Davis*. Complementing the recent *Kind of Blue* deluxe box set, this lavishly packaged 40th-anniversary legacy edition comes in a slipcase, detailed by the warped, surrealistic iconography of the late Mati Klarwein, and boasts the original double LP on vinyl and a pair of CDs, with a few alternate takes as well as single edits of "Great Expectations" and "Little Blue Frog" from a second session with Herbie Hancock. A previously unreleased DVD of Davis' Second Great Quintet — Shorter, Corea, bassist Dave Holland, and Jack DeJohnette behind the kit — in Copenhagen, November 1969, captures the bandleader halfway through his Betty Davis-led wardrobe/tonal makeover. Corea's mad science, especially on bookends "Directions" and "It's About That Time/The Theme," spikes this serene and otherwise acoustic 70-minute flight of fancy. Nine months later, the Prince of Darkness ruled a different realm — rock venues, in this case, famed Berkshires con-

cert venue Tanglewood. Bolstered by Keith Jarrett and percussionist Airtio Moreira and with Gary Bartz replacing Shorter, the septet barrels through 45 minutes of a funk supreme — high-voltage fusion that teeters on the brink of free-jazz. Here, Davis swirls just above the chaos, bobbing and weaving between the hard grooves like prizefighter Jack Johnson.

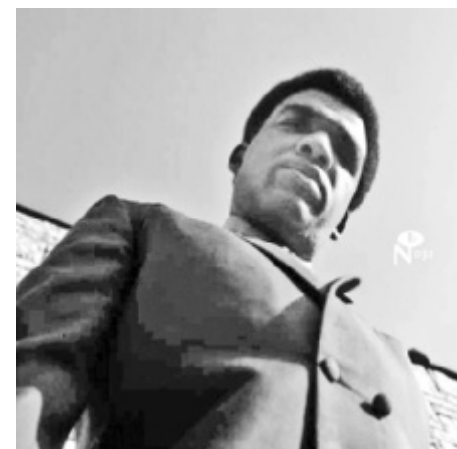
★★★★

— Austin Powell

SYL JOHNSON

Complete Mythology (Numero Group)

Syl Johnson may not have reached the top of the charts, but he never doubted his own talent. The guitarist declared himself "more soul than Marvin, more funk than James," and like most of Johnson's occasionally outlandish claims, a boast like that is only a shade or two from the truth. Beginning in the Windy City's late-1950s blues scene, performing with Jimmy Reed and Junior Wells — an influence apparent on the bluesy R&B sides he recorded for Federal from 1959 to 1962 — Johnson first made his mark on the Twainight/Twilight labels, cracking Top 20 on the R&B charts in 1967 with "Come On Sock It to Me" and "Different Strokes." The latter proved Johnson's financial stability three decades later when Wu-Tang Clan mined the song's wicked grunts, drum breaks, and staccato horns. Two years later, in 1970, Johnson's artistic peak came with *Is It Because I'm*



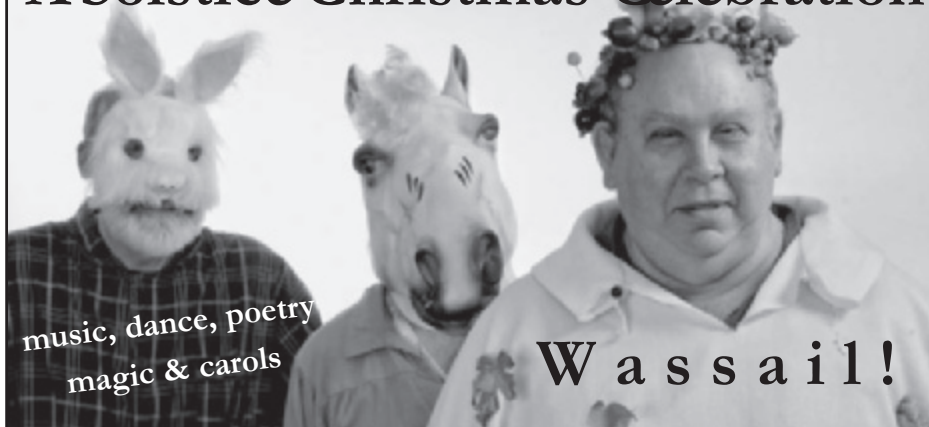
Black, a masterpiece protest album and song released well before Marvin Gaye's *What's Going On*. Even omitting Johnson's later Hi recordings, this behemoth is impressive by the numbers alone: 81 tracks of Johnson's early career appear both on six LPs and four CDs while nearly 50 pages of liner notes and archival photos unravel the twisting tale of the would-be soul superstar. As the man himself puts it: "This is more than just a box set to me. This is the history of a masterful artist whose time has just arrived."

★★★★

— Thomas Fawcett

CONTINUED ON P.56

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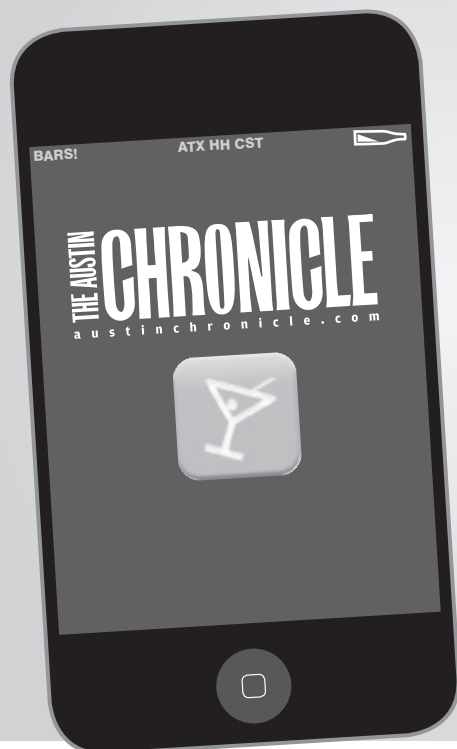
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STATION TO STATION

David Bowie's Dukedom

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

Three decades before Nicki Minaj, Mariah Carey, and Beyoncé made split personalities and alter egos attractive, David Bowie was perfecting the craft of shape-shifting.

The early 1970s introduced his alien pomp on 1972's *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders From Mars*, gold-plated 1973 follow-up *Aladdin Sane*, and the funk-soul of 1975's *Young Americans*. The late 1970s then leveled out with the ambient meditation of *Low*, *Heroes*, and *Lodger*, the three albums Bowie made in Berlin with Brian Eno. These were two ends of the spectrum, with many identities in between.

Station to Station, David Bowie's 1976 high-wire act, came out in the period between costume changes and offered another fractured personality – the Thin White Duke, left over from his appearance in Nicolas Roeg's film *The Man Who Fell to Earth*. It neatly mirrors the late-night vampire sessions of the recording, the cosmic anxiety of being overly stimulated in a strange city and between stations. From the opening title track, Bowie asserts himself as the Duke, “throwing darts in lovers' eyes.”

For a man who was always ahead of his time, the mythology of Bowie in L.A. is pretty entertaining. Besides the boatloads of coke being inhaled, there were stories of occult obsession, his fear of Jimmy Page coming after him, his abduction by “witches.” In Thomas Jerome Seabrook's 2008 book, *Bowie in Berlin: A New Career in a New Town*, the author references Cameron Crowe's 1976 article for *Rolling Stone* in which the singer claimed to see bodies falling from the sky during their interview. Bowie's diet in those days allegedly consisted of milk, peppers, and blow, and he doesn't remember the 1975 recording. It's a true testament to his talent that he made such a fine album in that lacuna. It became his highest-charting album in America.

There's nothing thin about this steeply priced deluxe reissue, which also comes available as a 3-CD set. That then begs the obvious question: Does the true Bowieophile really need this 5-CD, 3-LP, 1-DVD shoebox, offering the album and its analog masters, alternate mixes, a 1985 master of the album, a singles EP, and live CDs and LPs from the epic Nassau Coliseum concert in '76? Ironically, you would probably need to snort something in order to sift through and listen to it all.

Station to Station isn't necessarily an odd album to expand for the audiophile. Seeing as it clocks in at under 40 minutes, it's amazing there's this much extra material to play around with, enlightening on both the studio and live end. Bowie collected a stellar band for the recording: guitarists Earl Slick and Carlos Alomar, bassist George Murray, drummer Dennis Davis, and Bruce Springsteen key



man Roy Bittan. The disco fab of “Golden Years” and pop-tart trot of “TVC15” are balanced with ballads like “Word on a Wing.” Bowie was great at layering on this album, the different mixes highlighting precisely that. The experiment worked.

Station to Station is an odd album, however, to expand into the “ultimate fan experience.” EMI's targeting Bowie hoarders with cash to spare, because in addition to the aforementioned, you get a fan club folder! A replica backstage pass! Wallet-sized photos! A fan club membership card! Strange, especially when fandom has become so hands-on in the Aughts. Now, getting your picture with your favorite artist and uploading it to Facebook immediately outweighs the idea of waiting for a fan club certificate in the mail or cutting out pictures from a magazine and pasting walls with them. For folks of a certain age, perhaps it's nostalgia, but it's hard to think of Bowie as a nostalgia act.

The sweet spot: Live albums from NYC's long-bootlegged Nassau Coliseum performance in March 1976 preserve Bowie in top form. The live vinyl's an especially nice treat, and hearing the songs from *Station* in such crystal-line form proves the album wasn't just some feat of studio witchery. Out of L.A., Bowie seems chipper, reflected in energetic romps through “Changes,” “Queen Bitch,” and a cover of “Waiting for the Man.” The band is the glue here, but Bowie's voice sounds phenomenal. Shame that the DVD doesn't include live footage of this time, or any of Bowie's other appearances on TV shows. It would've balanced the audio overload.

Liner notes from Cameron Crowe, who was in the studio with Bowie during the recording for the *Rolling Stone* piece, offer a bit more insight into his state of mind. Bowie seemed spooked but confident in the studio. Perhaps the West Coast mythology helped balance the hero, making the shape-shifting easier. While listening to the playback for “Wild Is the Wind,” a Nina Simone cover, Bowie relates: “This has a good European feel. It feels like a bridge to the future.” ■

BOX SETS CONTINUED FROM P.54

JOHN LENNON

Signature Box (Capitol)

Of the Beatles, John Lennon appeared the most at-odds with his life. That had everything to do with being one of the fabled Fab Four, but the Liverpudlians' de facto leader shouldered the fame with a chip, playing out his frustrations in a decade's worth of music after the Beatles and before his death. He had two audiences: the one that followed him and the one that kept a reluctant distance thanks to Yoko Ono. Known as the Signature Box, “The Ballad of John and Yoko” could just as easily apply. Accounting for 11 CDs are Lennon's official solo LPs, remastered – *John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band* (1970), *Imagine* ('71), *Mind Games* ('73), *Walls and Bridges* ('74), and *Rock 'n' Roll* ('75) – as well as John and Yoko's 2-CD *Some Time in New York City* ('72), *Double Fantasy* (1980), and the posthumous *Milk and Honey* ('84), plus two CDs of home demos, a 65-page book, commemorative print, and three essays by his family. The subjects could be brilliant and brutal (“Working Class Hero,” “How Do You Sleep?”), mawkish and maudlin (“Love”), strident and strained (“Woman Is the Nigger of the World”), or exuberant and energetic (“Whatever Gets You Thru the Night”), but melodically, he didn't stray far from piano ballads and rock tunes. Yoko Ono's presence is no less felt – she's the more musically progressive – and a short arc connects her 1972 “We're All Water” with the B-52s seven years later, much as “Don't Be Scared” from *Milk and Honey* sounds like Tom Tom Club. The bonus discs offer alternate takes but should have included the DVD from the *Power to the People: The Hits* collection. Its videos are dated and limited, but deeply compelling. Lennon's many faces blended with his songs are visually reassuring, like his still-boyish smile during the sweetly defiant and romantic “#9 Dream.” Lennon's mantra says it all: “I don't believe in Beatles, I just believe in me.”

★★★

– Margaret Moser

APPLE RECORDS BOX SET

(Apple/EMI)

First, this collection of the non-Beatles Apple albums is for completists; all the individual albums here, except for a double-CD of rarities, which is available as a download, are available individually. That means if you don't want the Radha Krsna Temple album (and I don't think you do) or the two Mary Hopkin LPs (there's no accounting for taste) or the John Tavener classical album (a historical artifact at best), you can just get what you want. What you want is the four Badfinger discs, dismissed as Beatles copies back when they first came out in 1970 and 1971, but joyously poppy and upbeat today. That two of the four members of the classic lineup killed themselves makes some of the lyrics seem rather



dark for such sweet music, but there's no question Badfinger was underrated. Otherwise, the *Come and Get It* singles CD is odd fun: Check out the Hot Chocolate Band's reading of “Give Peace a Chance” or the Sundown Playboys' hardcore-Cajun “Saturday Nite Special.” I'm still not sure about Jackie Lomax: Was he the Joe Cocker that didn't happen? His album has its moments. James Taylor's 1968 debut stands up: The pseudo-classical connective material between songs sounds archaic now, but the bonus-track inclusion of some demos is neat. George Harrison signed not only the Krsnas but also Billy Preston and Doris Troy, and their efforts demonstrate uneasy tension between black American gospel and the attempts of some of the Brits to play backup – the Dixie Flyers they weren't. The biggest problem here: Personnel isn't listed anywhere. There are Beatles, Stones, and others of note on nearly all of these albums. Biggest surprise? The Modern Jazz Quartet album (collected on one CD), playfully experimental in a way the band had never been before.

★★★

– Ed Ward

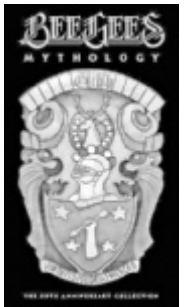
BEE GEES

Mythology (Reprise)

“We were like one soul in three bodies,” writes Robin Gibb about his late twin Maurice (1949-2003) and older brother Barry, who in turn now includes the trio's youngest brother Andy (1958-1988) under the Bee Gees' umbrella, although the teen sensation was never a member of the group. Each Gibb (or the estate thereof) curated his own disc mix on the 4-CD *Mythology*, which bottoms out its allegorical narrative due to the fact that none of the four siblings inhabited the soul of a drummer or bassist. Songs and harmonies still rise to the title of the brothers Gibb's last peak smash, 1979's *Spirits Having Flown*, but their musical mattes clank a tin can “Tragedy.” Chic's rhythm section – wanted! Barry's unerring white funk opens into the Stevie Wonder-lite “Jive Talkin'” and *Saturday Night Fever* soundtrack (“More Than a Woman,” “Night Fever,” “How Deep Is Your Love,” “Stayin' Alive”), while Robin's second disc cycles back to the beginning, its first dozen tracks summarizing 2006 box set *The Studio Albums 1967-1968*. Robin's throaty vibrato preps debut indelible “I Started a Joke,” after which the 1970s and 1980s arrive overarranged (“My World”), overwrought (“Run to Me”), and overprogrammed (“Juliet”). Disc three fills in between the two, drum machines killing anything with promise. Maurice demonstrates the least personality vocally, sounding like the Alan Parsons Project (“Man in the Middle,” “Omega Man”), although “Country Woman” could almost pass for Michael Nesmith. Andy's meteoric debut, a pair of No. 1 blockbusters in “I Just Want to Be Your Everything” and “(Love Is) Thicker Than Water,” co-written by himself and Barry, give way to vocal stylizing that approximates a poor man's version of the eldest Gibb. When the Bee Gees back him on 1980's “Desire,” which they wrote, he all but vanishes.

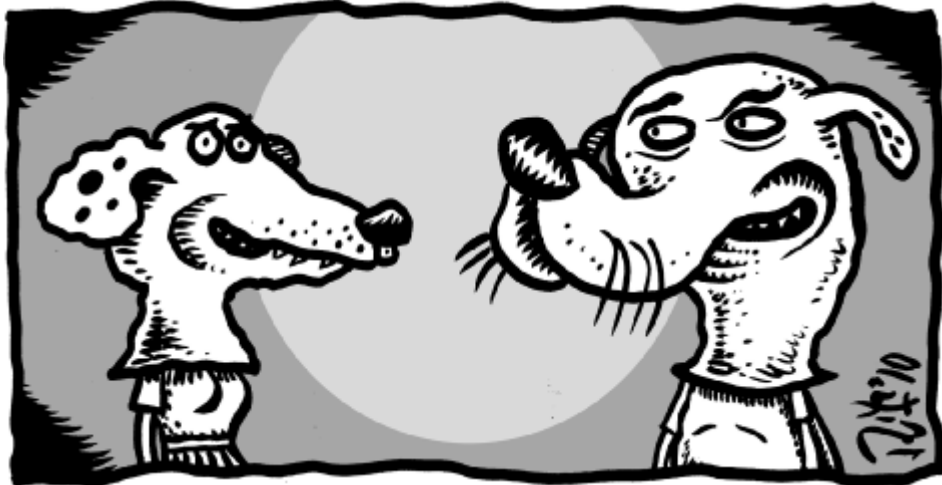
★★

– Raoul Hernandez



NEW OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

In recent years frisky Britons have popularized “dogging” – strangers meeting for outdoor sex in remote public parks – and UK government agencies appear to be of two minds about it. Local councils want to see it stopped, but the police chiefs’ association in Scotland recognizes that doggers have rights. (The Surrey County Council, for example, recently considered bringing wild bulls into one park to discourage doggers, although one critic said romping bulls “will probably make [doggers] even more excited.” The chiefs’ association issued a 60-page “hate crimes” manual in October that urged officers to be sensitive to “outdoor sex” practitioners, in that they are vulnerable to hate crimes just as are other disadvantaged minorities.)

LEAD STORY

Britain’s National Health Service acknowledged in November that because of a shortage of healthy lungs and other organs available for transplant, it was offering those on waiting lists the option of receiving them from former smokers, drug addicts, cancer patients, and the elderly. “You have to say,” said an official with the NHS’ Blood and Transplant unit, “do you get a lung with more risk, or do you get no lung [at all]?”

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

In November, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously that some illegal immigrants are entitled to enroll in the state’s universities at the in-state residents’ rate (saving as much as \$23,000 a year), even though U.S. citizens at the same schools may have to pay higher fees as non-California residents. Though federal law prevents special benefits to illegal immigrants, California’s law grants anyone who has attended the state’s high schools for at least three years and graduated to pay resident rates – irrespective of their parents’ legal residency.

Chadwick St.-O’Hara, 59, and Steve Righetti, 59, filed lawsuits in small claims court in San Rafael, Calif., in November against the Seafood Peddler Restaurant & Oyster Bar for “injuries.” Cutting into the escargot at dinner in June, both men were

squirted in the face by streams of hot garlic butter. Still, the men finished the meal and admitted that only later did they grow to resent the restaurant staff’s insufficient remorse. Said St.-O’Hara, “It was the friggin’ rudeness” that provoked them to sue.

REDNECK CHRONICLES

1) Joe Druce, serving life in prison in Massachusetts for one murder (and who subsequently murdered fellow inmate and former pedophile Priest John Geoghan), popped the question recently to Christian minister Shirl Borden, who agreed to marry him in October after five years of being pen pals. Borden said the pair’s relationship turned romantic over their mutual love of NASCAR. 2) Harvey Westmoreland of Lawrenceburg, Ky., maintains that the \$250 price he was asking for his tractor was reasonable, but the potential buyer felt cheated and, with a friend, attacked Westmoreland. Said Westmoreland, “They cut my beard and forced me to eat it.” In November, the two men pleaded guilty to assault.

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

French farmer Michele Rouyer, who was discovered by police with about 11 pounds of packaged marijuana and a dozen plants, said the weed was not for himself but for the 150 ducks he raises – in that a special-

ist had suggested that marijuana is an effective dewormer and fever-preventer. (Rouyer did acknowledge that, well, yes, maybe he smoked a little of it himself.) In November, a court in Rochefort fined him the equivalent of about \$700 – even though he insisted, proudly, that his ducks are, indeed, worm-free.

Lame: 1) Former Groveland, Mass., Police Officer Aaron Yeo, who was fired in 2009 for sleeping on the job and lying to dispatchers about his locations, challenged the termination in October 2010, claiming through his lawyer that he had declined to reveal his locations only because he was “watching for terrorists.” 2) Body armor company CEO David H. Brooks, charged with tax fraud and insider trading, argued at his trial in August in New York City that his company’s hiring of prostitutes for staff and board members was a legitimate corporate expense because it could “make [employees] more productive.”

THE PERVO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

A Website for Everything: When a female New York City subway rider recorded video (on her cell phone) of a male exhibitionist flaunting himself at her recently and posted it to the Internet, the regulars at one specialized website largely defended the man. Some visitors at DickFlash.com (evidently a favorite hangout for flashers) tore into the woman for being too sensitive. (Wrote one, “If she doesn’t want to see it, she can just look away.” And another, “She should be thankful he flashed his dick at her.”) Others merely offered advice for the flasher on technique. (Wrote another: “OK, let’s point out his mistakes: Subways or local buses must be done with sweats or some form of elastic band so that when u did get busted it’s easy to slip back up.”)

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at
www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com
(or www.newsoftheweird.com).

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.
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THURSDAY **16**

🐾 EXPERIENCE MUSIC TOGETHER

Children younger than 5 years of age and their parents are invited to sample classes by Heartsong Music. Start nurturing your kid's inner musician early. Go online to sign up. 9:30 & 10:45am, 3:30 & 4:45pm. Heartsong Music, 2700 W. Anderson #320, 371-9506. Free. www.heartsongmusictogether.com.

TRAVIS COUNTY FARMERS' MARKET Renovated and reopened, this market has all the local meat, veggies, dairy, and crafts you could want. *Thursdays*, 3-7pm. 6701 Burnet Rd., 821-9221. gems23rd@sbcglobal.net.

LEGO STORY LAB If your kids find reading to be a chore, why not throw in some LEGOs to mix things up? Part playtime, part storytime, all fun. For kids ages 10 and older. 4:30pm. Carver Branch Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

GREEN HOLIDAY PARTY Buy your tickets ahead of time, and hobnob with local environmental orgs. Live music from Tribal Nation, food, and drinks get attendees in the party mood. 5:30-9:30pm. Fiesta Gardens, 2100 Jesse E. Segovia, 480-8318. \$30 (\$20, members). www.texasgreennetwork.org.

BOTANICAL BEAUTY PARLOUR OPENING SOIREE

It's not just a grand opening, it's a party. The alt-tap-dancing outfit (if there is such a thing) What's Tapping brings its happy feet, and local artists fill up the gallery portion of the shop with their visions. For those looking for free stuff, there will be wine, appetizers, and giveaways. 6-9pm. PALOMA Botanical Beauty Parlour, 4600 Mueller Blvd. #1005, 480-8090. Free. www.palomabeauty.com.

HIS-STORY: A LIVE CHRISTMAS STORY Come out for one of the four nightly live nativity performances, complete with camels, goats, sheep, and donkeys. Between shows stop inside for hot cocoa and cookies. *Thu-Sun., Dec. 16-19*, 6-8pm. Mission Possible, 1190 Chicon. Free. www.mpaustin.org.

MAMMO MIXERS Manicures, refreshments, and, oh yeah, mammograms. Call to RSVP. 6pm. The Breast Center at St. David's Medical Center, 919 E. 32nd #111, 544-8803. Free. www.stdavids.com.

NORTH LOOP HOLIDAY NIGHT OUT Put a dash of partying into your relentless seasonal shopping spree. Stores along this popular hip strip will be gussied-up with music, food, and other surprises. 6-9pm. North Loop, from Guadalupe to Martin Street. www.ibuyaustin.com.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM includes performances from students of the Texas Preparatory School and the Purple Players youth drama troupe. If Santa is making time to show up, shouldn't you? 6:30-8:30pm. Boys & Girls Club of South Central Texas, 400 Uhland, San Marcos. Free. <http://on.fb.me/h4uaWf>.

HEALTH CARE REFORM & YOU Local health professionals and policy wonks translate the governmental jargon into answers that pertain to your coverage and the reality of the new law. 6:30-9pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 250-1043. Free.

BETCH SAYS, 'YES MEANS YES!' Join the French Inhales, Lola Cola, the Queertastics, and more, as new radical feminist organization Beautiful

THURSDAY, DEC. 16 TO THURSDAY, DEC. 23

calendar

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/COMMUNITY

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

Educated Thunder Cunts From Hell (yes, darling, that spells BETCH) rallies to envision a world without rape, amen. 7-11pm. Trailer Space Records, 1401-A Rosewood, 524-1445.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Daft Punk's Electroma @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm
O Brother, Where Art Thou? @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Holy Wave, English Teeth The Parish

FRIDAY **17**

DRIVE ELECTRIC TOUR Take a test-drive of the electric Nissan Leaf and learn more about the technology behind the automotive evolution. *Fri-Sun., Dec. 17-19*. The Domain, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace, 795-4230.

PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CAMPUS

OPENING This facility has everything an aspiring safety professional would want: a shooting range, a burn building, outdoor training areas, a SWAT obstacle course, a driving track, and more. It's like the *American Gladiators* studio but without all the padding, and you're invited to check it out. 10am. Public Safety Training Campus, 4800 Shaw. Free.

LEGO STORY LAB See Thursday (12/16) for more info. 4pm. Terrazas Branch Library, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

POLAR EXPRESS PAJAMARAMA Get your tickets ahead of time, break out your snuggliest jim-jams and prepare for storytime and a visit from the man of the hour: Santa. Hot chocolate, cookies, and crafts help keep you warm. 6-8pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org.

EBENEZER'S JOURNEY Take a trip through the world of *A Christmas Carol* by traveling from one scene to the next on the historic grounds of Pioneer Farms. If that's too much Scrooge for you, take a gander at the lights, activities, and other family friendly fun. *Fri-Sat., Dec. 17-18*, 7-10pm. Pioneer Farms, 10621 Pioneer Farms Dr., 837-1215. \$12. www.pioneerfarms.org.

WINTERLAND: A JOURNEY THROUGH CHRISTMAHANUKWANZAAKKAH Bring the kids to this interactive theatrical romp through the traditions of Christmas, Chanukah, and Kwanzaa, courtesy of a chick & a dude productions. *Dec. 3-19*, *Fridays*, 7pm; *Saturdays*, 2 & 5pm; *Sundays*, 5pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 921-4264. \$12 (\$10, children). www.nowplayingaustin.com.

CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER The Austin City Ballet presents the 10th annual *Nutcracker* for the kids. It's a holiday tradition for all age groups, as long as leaping in tights is your thing. *Fri-Sat., Dec. 17-18*. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 496-5937. \$22 (\$17, children). www.austin-conservatory-arts.com.

BOXED SET: ROB NASH Come peek inside Rob Nash's hot li'l box as he unwraps this greatest hits show, culling the best from his many years right here in this town. *Fri-Sat., Dec. 17-18*, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$15-30; \$10, starving artists.

CHRISTMAS KIRTAN Randall and Kristin Brooks put a holiday twist on the spiritual call-and-response of your average kirtan. 8pm. Eastside Yoga, 1050 E. 11th, 779-8543. \$15 suggested donation. www.eastsideyoga-austin.com.

HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR Bellydancing, live music, and theatre performances make this holiday shopping bazaar feel more like a night out in Austin. *Dec. 10-19: Friday & Saturday*, 8pm; *Sunday*, 4pm. Gemini Playhouse, 5214 Burleson #209, 436-9020. \$15. www.thegeminiplayhouse.com.

CHURCH! This is the first church we know of where you need confession right after the mass. This altar is where the Glitoris spins sinfully. *Fridays*. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823. www.theglitoris.com.

HOT/ICE HOLIDAY BATHHOUSE The Bathhouse boys are back. Let's see how many show up in red mantles with white fur cuffs. 10:30pm. Rusty Spurs, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002. www.facebook.com/bathhouseaustin.

JINGLE BELL JUBILEE The bright lights shine – Cabernet Cabaret, Capital City Men's Chorus, Austin Glee Club, Holy Cross Church Liturgical Dancers, concert pianist Brett Bachus, saxophonist Daniel Brookshire, and singer Jeffrey Jones Ragona – all to shine a white-hot spot on our Wright House Wellness Center. *Preshow*, 7pm; *show*, 8pm. Rusty Spurs, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002. \$5. www.thewrighthouse.org.

SUCK MY CHRISTMAS! Rebecca Havemeyer, Little Stolen Moments, Silky Shoemaker, and Dr. Bruce Kirkland will help you unstick that yule log. Now that's better, isn't it? *Fri-Sat., Dec. 17-18*, 9pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$10.



NEW Year's GUIDE

You may not be ready for the new year, but there's no stopping its arrival. The least you can do is start planning so it looks like you're prepared. Refer to our New Year's Eve Listings online at

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/NEWYEARS and make a timely reservation. It's your last chance to look put-together in 2010.



| L - R: GERMAN FAIRY TALE HOUR (SEE SATURDAY) | WWE MONDAY NIGHT RAW (SPORTS, P.63) | BLANTON MUSEUM (ARTS, P.64) | TRON LEGACY (FILM, P.70) | ANDY DICK (MUSIC, P.80)

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BY GERALD E. MCLEOD *daytrips*

Navarro Pecan Company in Corsicana is one the largest pecan-processing companies in the world, if not the largest. With the capacity to handle 50 million pounds of pecans a year, nobody

has more space. The amount of nuts the plant actually shells often depends on the harvest.

"It's hard to say until the harvest is over in February, but this year looks okay," says Austin Nixon, the shelling plant's general manager.

Yes, pecans are an alternating-year crop, Nixon says, but when one region has a down year, another region will have a good crop. Like all agriculture, a lot depends on the weather. The Corsicana company owns no orchards but buys pecans from 16 states where the nuts are grown commercially.

Pecans, cranberries, and sunflowers are Native American foods, Nixon says. The pecan probably originated in the Mississippi River Valley. The nuts have spread to nearly every river system in Texas.

The native pecan is small with a thick shell, but many people favor it for its flavor. Farmers like it because its trees produce reliable crops without the extra work that the improved varieties require. The Navarro Pecan Company, which supplies pecans to nearly every major food producer, shells tons of the native nuts every year.

Nixon says that 25% to 30% of his product is shipped to Europe. Foreign interest in the pecan began rising in the 1990s. The Chinese have become a major buyer of the larger improved varieties. "They like them raw as a snack," he says. "Pecans have become a favorite during Chinese New Year."

Who can blame the Europeans and Chinese for their love of the pecan? High in antioxidants and monounsaturated fats, the pecan has been found to lower "bad" LDL cholesterol, boost the immune system, and help with weight loss. Why, that slice of pecan pie could almost be considered health food, and a handful of pecans definitely is.

You can buy your holiday pecans from the small store at Navarro Pecan Company. It also carries food products from regional manufacturers, including heavenly dark-chocolate-covered pecans and pecan oil that is as healthy as olive oil. The store is located at 2131 Highway 31 E. in Corsicana, east of I-45. Call 800/732-2648 for store hours, or visit www.pecanproducersonline.com for online sales.

Locally grown pecans are also available at Berdoll Pecan Farm's store on Highway 71, 15 miles east of Austin. They carry all kinds of pecan and chocolate products. If you get there after closing time, Berdoll's has a 24-hour vending machine that dispenses delicious pecan pies.

In Seguin, Pape's Pecan House has been selling pecan products for more than 50 years. The retail store at 5440 Highway 123 S. carries a variety of nuts and candies and displays a huge collection of nutcrackers.

1,014th in a series. Collect them all. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

outoftown

TRAIL OF LIGHTS Walk the trail enjoying holiday songs, food, and more while weaving through the park and its many animated light displays. Free parking and shuttles from Cabela's parking lot. *Thu-Wed., Dec. 16-22, 6-10pm. Historic Stagecoach Park, 880 Main St., Buda, 512/312-0084. Free. www.ci.buda.tx.us.*

BIRD BANDING See a bird in the hand as volunteers measure, weigh, and record data before releasing the captured birds. *Sat., Dec. 18. Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, 103 Hwy. 332 W., Lake Jackson, 979/480-0999. Free. www.gcbo.org.*

COWBOY CHRISTMAS Visit the Old West movie set town to see cowboy shows and take a wagon ride through the animal park. *Sat-Sun., Dec. 18-19, 10am-5pm. Enchanted Springs Ranch, 242 TX 46 W., Boerne, 830/249-8222 x202. \$14 (\$7, children). www.enchantedspringsranch.com.*

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS Tour the barns with decorated Christmas trees, decorate your own tree-shaped cookie, visit with the farm animals, sample the homemade foods, and more. *Sat-Sun., Dec. 18-19, 11am-5pm. Texas Agricultural Education & Heritage Center, Seguin, 830/379-1122. Free. www.texagedu.org.*

LAS POSADAS CELEBRATION Enjoy the traditional re-enactment of the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem and then take part in the music, dancing, food, and drinks afterward. *Sun., Dec. 19. Lutheran University Chapel, 1000 W. Court St., Seguin, 800/580-7322. Free. www.visitseguin.com.*

LBJ TREE LIGHTING Take part in a tradition begun 41 years ago by President and Mrs. Johnson with carolers, a live nativity, Santa Claus, refreshments, and the spectacular tree lighting. *Sun., Dec. 19, 6-9pm. LBJ State Park, Stonewall, 830/644-2252. Free. www.tpwd.state.tx.us.*

HIS-STORY: A LIVE CHRISTMAS STORY (See Thursday, 12/16.)

LITERA (See Arts Listings.)

Albert Huffstickler Memorial Birthday Reading
Fire Tree Studios

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Schmillion *Emo's*
Turbo Fruits, Pujol *Red 7*
Jose Feliciano *One World Theatre*

SATURDAY 18

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET features fresh organic produce, meats, and cheeses straight from surrounding Texas farms, plus live music every week. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.*

BARTON CREEK FARMERS MARKET Expect local farm-fresh produce that belies its placement in a parking lot. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Barton Creek Square, 2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 280-1976. Free. www.bartoncreekfarmersmarket.org.*

COFFEE & A PETTING ZOO This Mueller coffee shop has all the caffeine adults could want and, today, also has Austin's traveling petting zoo, Tiny Tails to You, bringing hand-friendly animals for the kids to get to know. *9am-noon. The Coffee Trailer, 4507 Airport. www.thecoffeetrailer.com.*

SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER FARMERS' MARKET Organic and local meats, cheeses, and produce await you. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Toney Burger Activity Center, 3200 Jones, 414-2096. Free. www.sfcfarmersmarketsunsetvalley.org.*

WILLOWBROOK REACH WORKDAY This neighborhood greenbelt is in the first stages of being restored and needs your help mulching and removing invasive plant species. Come dressed to work, and bring shovels and rakes if you have them. *9am-1pm. 40th & Cherrywood. permit5000@gmail.com, www.flwr.blogspot.com.*

EXPERIENCE MUSIC TOGETHER See Thursday (12/16) for more info. *9:30 & 10:45am. Heartsong Music, 2700 W. Anderson #320, 371-9506. Free. www.heartsongmusictogether.com.*

SOUTH FIRST SATURDAYS Indie shops on South First help turn your holiday shopping into a party with entertainment, food, and other special offers. Go online for a list of participating stores and events. *Saturdays through Dec. 18. South First between Barton Springs Road & Oltorf. www.ibuyAustin.com.*

TEXAS BAMBOO SOCIETY Get to know the different types of bamboo that thrive in Austin, and groom some bamboo yourself in the Taniguchi Japanese Garden. Hand clippers, loppers, a saw, and gloves are recommended. *10am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 929-9565. Free. www.bamboocentral.net.*

TINPLATE TRACKERS TRAIN CLUB Come watch the choo-choos and inspire the next generation to keep this historic hobby alive and well. You might even be allowed to sit behind the controls if you're kind enough to the tip jar. *Saturdays through Jan. 15, noon-5pm. 201 W. Second. Donations appreciated. www.trainweb.org/ttat.*

HOLIDAY HEROES This fun-for-the-whole-family show, created by Shaun Wainwright-Branigan, explores various holiday traditions through the eyes of two musically inclined but bumbling stagehands. *11am. Zach Theatre's Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside, 476-0541 x1. \$10 (\$8, kids). www.zachtheatre.org.*

SANTA SATURDAY Even Ol' St. Nick needs his caffeine fix. Bring your camera and get a picture taken with Santa and his electric rickshaw, or sample some of the coffees from around the world. *11am-1pm. Texas Coffee Traders, 1400 E. Fourth, 476-2279. Free. www.texascoffeetraders.com.*

SIGN LANGUAGE STORYTIME A special holiday reading through the use of American Sign Language for the hearing-impaired. *11am. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

SANTA AT MOXIE Want a photo with Santa but don't want your holiday high to be harshed by the mall crowds? The jolly red giant will be available for

pics, but bring your own camera. *Noon-2pm. Moxie and the Compound, 909 W. Mary, 524-4502. Free.*

YULE BAZAAR is one of your last chances for unique holiday shopping as vendors, entertainers, and musicians congregate to help you get in the spirit of shopping local. Warm up by the yule campfire, sit down for storytime, and get the kids singing along to some of the live acts. Don't forget your camera for pics with Santa. *Sat-Sun., Dec. 18-19, noon-6pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. Free. on.fb.me/g4GjaJ.*

HOW TO EAT LIKE A CHILD and *Other Lessons in Not Being a Grownup* teaches adults the fine arts of torturing sisters and begging for a dog, among other skills. This musical stars students in the Zach Performing Arts School. *Sat., Dec. 11, 12:30 & 2:30pm; Sat., Dec. 18, 2:30 & 4:30pm. Zach Theatre's Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside, 476-0541 x1. \$10 (\$8, kids). www.zachtheatre.org.*

MITCHIE'S STORYTIME This weekly storytime features African and African-American folktales, and each child receives a free gift. (Second and third Saturdays include sign-language instruction.) *Saturdays, 1-2pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. Free. www.mitchie.com.*

AMOA PUBLIC TOURS Nothing like a docent-led tour of the Austin Museum of Art's latest exhibition to increase your cultural cachet. *Saturdays, 2pm. Austin Museum of Art - Downtown, 823 Congress, 495-9224. Free with museum admission. www.amoa.org.*

ART WORKSHOP Art professor Christopher Adejumo invites parents and kids to this monthly workshop of learning and creating. Supplies are provided. Volunteers are especially welcome. *Third Saturdays, 2-4pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. Free. www.mitchie.com.*

CITY EMPLOYEE ART EXHIBIT Ninety city employees who moonlight as artists (or is it the other way around?) put their creations on display before cash awards provided by the National Arts Program Foundation are presented. *2-4pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 323-6626.*

GERMAN FAIRY TALE HOUR features a German-language telling of the Hansel & Gretl story, followed by crafts and activities. Recommended for anyone over the age of 2. *2-4pm. German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. \$10. www.germantexans.org.*

FUKUOKA'S NATURAL FARMING METHODS Ethan Rainwater discusses the farming methods of naturalist, philosopher, and writer Masanobu Fukuoka. *2:30pm. Habitat Suites, 500 E. Highland Mall Blvd., 467-6000, 800/535-4663. \$5 donation. www.designbuildlive.org.*

CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CLASS This advanced language class will meet in small groups and focus on speaking skills. *First and third Saturdays, 4pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org/adult-programs-and-volunteering/programs-for-adults.html.*

RANDY WILLIS PICKIN' ON CHRISTMAS Celebrate Willis' birthday with eight bands and no shortage of holiday spirit. Admission is one toy for the Travis County Brown Santa Toy Drive. *5-10pm. Dallas Night Club, 7113 Burnet Rd., 565-0161. Free.*

DIVERSEARTS HOLIDAY/FUNDRAISER CELEBRATION Sometimes you just need to pat yourself on the back for a year well-spent supporting the culture and arts of East Austin. And if you can raise some money for next year's exhibitions, all the better. E-mail to reserve your tickets. *6pm. DiverseArts, 904 Juniper, 477-9438. \$25. rsvp@diversearts.org, www.diversearts.org.*

WALK TO THE MANGER Take a trip through Bethlehem on that eventful evening back in O B.C. You will meet shepherds, an innkeeper, a king, and more who will answer your questions and perhaps ask you to run an errand or two. The entire trek takes about 45 minutes, with groups leaving every seven minutes. *Sat-Sun., Dec. 18-19, 6-10pm. St. Philip's United Methodist Church, 16321 Great Oaks Dr., Round Rock, 512/244-2175. Donations appreciated. stphilipsdrama@gmail.com.*

BLUE CHRISTMAS No, not "blue" in the sad sense, "blue" in the "thin blue line" sense, the cop sense. The ladies of the Lip give a li'l smooch to APD and collect toys for Blue Santa. Bring a toy, wear blue, and they'll pour you a shot. *9pm. Lipstick24, 606 E. Seventh, 474-2950.*



CHILDREN'S *NUTCRACKER* (SEE FRIDAY)

DRIVE ELECTRIC TOUR (See Friday.)

HIS-STORY: A LIVE CHRISTMAS STORY (See Thursday, 12/16.)

★ **EBENEZER'S JOURNEY** (See Friday.)

🐱 **WINTERLAND: A JOURNEY THROUGH CHRISTMAHANUKWANZAAAKKAH** (See Friday.)

🐱 **CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER** (See Friday.)

👑 **BOXED SET: ROB NASH** (See Friday.)

HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR (See Friday.)

👑 **SUCK MY CHRISTMAS!** (See Friday.)

LITERA (See Arts Listings.)

Make It Wet SpitFest Ruta Maya

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 11am

Miracle on 34th Street @ Paramount, 7pm

The Shop Around the Corner @ Paramount, 9pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Andy Dick & the Bitches of the Century Emo's Austin vs. Houston Noise Night Club 1808

ArcAttack Mohawk

The Fighting Brothers McCarthy Christmas

Rumble ND at 501 Studios

Paul Ray & the Cobras Continental Club

SUNDAY 19

🐱 **LAURA FREEMAN & THE HEY LOLLIES** combine singing, dancing, and general silliness – it's like catnip for kids. 10:30am. Cherrywood Coffeehouse, 1400 E. 38½, 538-1991. Free (donations appreciated).

ARABIC BAZAAR Arabic music, belly dancing and belly-dance classes (free with purchase of dance card), complimentary Arabic sweets, candy, and coffee – all of these accompany a bazaar full of goodies from Syria, Egypt, and Morocco for exotic holiday gifts. 11am-7pm. *Arabic Bazaar*, 5013 Duval St., 533-9227. www.wmdproductions.com.

👑 **LEGENDARY: THE DRAG BRUNCH** You had us at "unlimited bacon." (Not to mention washing it all down with those mimosas.) Come get diva'd up on a Sunday with sassy Saffire, Topaz, Tara St. Stone, and Miss Ima Hoot. *Brunch*, 11am-3pm; shows, noon & 2pm. M Two, 208 W. Fourth, 478-7222. \$20.

YULE RITUAL CELEBRATION Bring the kids, a dish to contribute to the potluck, and a bell to ring, and prepare for storytelling, crafts, and a yule ritual. Nonperishable food, unwrapped toys, and clothing items will be collected for SafePlace. Noon. *The Vortex*, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. Free. www.tejasweb.org.

BOW WOW HOLIDAY FESTIVAL Bring the family and the family dog for a slew of crafts, activities, carols, a pajama costume contest, and more. Don't

forget a treat for the Austin Dog Alliance (in the form of money). 1-4pm. *Milburn Park*, 1901 Sunchase Blvd., Cedar Park. Free. www.austindogalliance.org.

🐱 **PTERADACTAL CACTUS** A team of talented improvisers take kids and their families through stories, games, and songs based on audience suggestions. *Sundays*, 2pm. *The Hideout Theatre*, 617 Congress, 971-3311. www.flyingtheatremachine.com.

👑 **WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION & OPEN HOUSE** Join Nancy Scott, Terri Lord, Abe Louise Young, Hoa Nguyen, Laura Freeman, Poet On Watch and more, and give back to the community while making like Santa! Join the merriment (eats! drinks! discounts!) and shop local and loca at BW this holiday season. 2-7pm. *BookWoman*, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.

GIRLS' CHOIR CONCERT The Austin Girls' Choir takes carols to the next level with four-part harmonies, candlelight processions, Victorian costumes, and more. 3pm. *Episcopal Church of the Resurrection*, 2200 Justin, 453-0884. \$10 suggested donation. www.austin.girlschoir.com.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT BENEFIT Local music for a local organization: the Christmas Bureau of Austin. 5pm-12mid. *Spill Martini Bar & Grill*, 212 E. Sixth, 469-0167. \$10. www.cbfoaustin.org.

👑 **A VERY PINK CHRISTMAS** The Austin Baptist Women bring the sass, Mike Burns (New Jerusalem fame, how apropos) brings the class, and you bring the donkey! 6-10pm. *Oilcan Harry's*, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

★ **SCREENING & CONVERSATION WITH ECOLOGY ACTION** Follow the life cycle of an average grocery bag in the short film "Plastic Bag," followed by a discussion with the enviro-cooperative Ecology Action. 7pm. *MonkeyWrench Books*, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

DRIVE ELECTRIC TOUR (See Friday.)

★ **YULE BAZAAR** (See Saturday.)

HIS-STORY: A LIVE CHRISTMAS STORY (See Thursday, 12/16.)

WALK TO THE MANGER (See Saturday.)

🐱 **WINTERLAND: A JOURNEY THROUGH CHRISTMAHANUKWANZAAAKKAH** (See Friday.)

🐱 **CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER** (See Friday.)

HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR (See Friday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

"Plastic Bag" @ MonkeyWrench Books, 7pm

Get Crazy @ Alamo Ritz, 10pm

Miracle on 34th Street @ Paramount, 7pm

The Shop Around the Corner @ Paramount, 4:30pm

Total Badass @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Mind Spiders Beerland

U-18/U-21 Benefit Show Emo's

BY KATE X MESSER

gayplace

GAY APPAREL, GAY FURNITURE, GAY ADVENTURES... It occurred to us that we've never weighed in on the gift orgy that happens *Chronically* between T'giving and New Year's. Sure, gay people can plumb awesome DVD, music, games, books, and foodie things to lavish upon giftees just like anybody else, but a gay perspective, a gay cheat sheet as it were, might be nice. However, instead of focusing on DVDs, music, games, books, and food, we shall focus on... *tha booty!*

Send gay bits to
gayplace@
austinchronicle.com.
Visit
austinchronicle.com/
gayplaceblog.

INSPIRE THAT BOOTY Austin's last vestige of video nasties for the LGBT set, **Tapelenders** is also home to **Skivvies'** underdrawers nexus, boasting all manner of designer thongs, slings, jocks, and nut-huggers. *Butt!* If you'd like to inspire your intended to acquire the type of booty that looks good in a pair of **Andrew Christians** or **2xists**, then check out Tapelender's full line of **Vitruvian** decor. Inspired by **daVinci's** Vitruvian Man (aka the **Canon of Proportions**), these sculptures feature the sort of classic, chiseled male torsos that would make P-enviers like **Camille Paglia** or **Ayn Rand** pee their pants (probably standing up, see below). We recommend **Greek Wrestlers** (see pic below). 1114 W. Fifth, #201, 472-0844. www.tapelenders.com.

PROBE THAT BOOTY Wanna get up close and personal with butt plugs before you buy? The aforementioned Tapelenders and our personal best of the anal analyzers set, **Forbidden Fruit**, can help. Beads, plugs, vibes – it's all there, and it's all goooooo. Plus, the staff is super easy to chat up. You know, about the merch 512-A Neches, 478-8358, and 108 E. North Loop, 453-8090. www.forbiddenfruit.com.

WORK THAT BOOTY If your concept of "buttery, toasted buns" does not involve a **Wendy's Baconator**, heed: The butts of the trainers at Anytime Fitness inspire change. (Don't tell them we told you.) It's a standard gym with few frills, so unless your giftee's butt requires frills, give a membership. We also are intrigued by the promise of acquiring gluteal max-imosity while learning a viable, marketable skill, so we also recommend **Castle Hill Fitness' Hula-Hoop class** and the array of training options at **Brass Ovaries Pole Dancing**. Giving a certificate for any of these places/programs promises a firm return on your investment. www.anytimefitness.com; www.brass-ovaries.com; www.castlehillfitness.com.

RELAX THAT BOOTY Spa-taneous combustion is pretty much guaranteed when you present a spa certificate to your honey. Expect an immediate monkey-jump and some very sloppy (but sincere) gratitude as your lover plots which treatment to get. Now, we here at the **Gay Place** present fairly

queerly – there's no mistaking us for anything but gay all day. As we can attest, the seasoned pros at the world-class (rated "No. 1 Destination Spa" by *Conde Nast* and "Best Spa" by our readers) **Lake Austin Spa Resort** can make the doofiest dyke daddy feel like the belle of the ball. Purchase spa treatments or shoot the moon

with all-encompassing packages featuring nights at the resort. Right now through New Year's Eve, for every \$270 spent in **LakeHouse Spa** gift certs, you'll receive a bonus traditional manicure (worth \$50). There's also the **Holidays at the Spa** package available now through Jan. 5 that knocks 30% off certain packages with 3-night or longer stays. www.lakeaustin.com.

SIT THAT BOOTY RIGHT ON DOWN You can't feather the flat of your high-end call boy or ample mistress with anything less than a nice chair from **NEST**. Hint: Our ass looks great flanked by the wings of the retro-mod **Cole chair** (see pic). If the \$2,500-plus price tag intimidates, NEST also offers reasonably priced clocks, office supplies, and dinnerware, but we don't recommend using any of those on your *culo*. 1009 W. Sixth, 637-0600. www.nestmodern.com.

KICK THAT BOOTY You know the Gay Place loves the **Pride Socks** and the **Bookwoman**. So, we heartily endorse going to Bookwoman, picking up some Pride Socks, wrapping up a pair for you and a pair for boo, then come gift-time, slipping them on, and playing a game of footsie or bootsie with your sweetsie. 5501 N. Lamar, A-105, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com. www.pridesocks.com.

DON'T SOAK THAT BOOTY The babes at Bookwoman also feature another great stocking stuffer: The **pStyle**. You've heard of L-style and G-style? Well, the pStyle is one of those colored, plastic contraptions that, when inserted in some ... ahem, lady's pants, allows her to ... ahem, "whistle Dixie" whilst standing up.

COVER THINE BOOTY We get asked all the time: Please recommend some gay-friendly shopping places? We could go on all day. But we'll pick three: **Amelia's Retro-Vogue & Relics**, old school vintage style; **Coco Coquette**, new whirled order wig mavens; and **Stag**, leather, Levi's, and man lace for discerning gents of all gender expressions. Amelia's, 2213 S. First, 442-4446. www.ameliaretrovogue.com; Coco, 2109 E. Cesar Chavez, 323/702-6061. www.coco-coquette.com. Stag, 1423 S. Congress, 373-7824. www.stagaustin.com.

MAKE THE BOOTY Personally, our favorite gifts come from the heart and from the hands. Do with that advice what you will. *Happy ho'lidaze!*





GIRLS' CHOIR
CONCERT (SEE
SUNDAY)

MONDAY 20

CAP CITY QS HOLIDAY GALA Come on upstairs to Marker 10! This month the Cap City Q-t-pies will be courtin' and a-flirtin' while collecting holiday cheer for ASA and CARE Communities. Bring grocery gift cards, new toiletries, nonperishables, and your big, fat Santa attitude (a big, fat wallet is welcome too, of course) and share. And flirt. 7pm. Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 477-1234. Free. www.capitalcityqsocals.com.

MANIC MONDAYS With a name like that, one might suspect this would be the same ol' Eighties deck. Umm, no way. XBRMNT (aka Nakia) spins crazy good juxtapositions from classic cunt'ry and R&B to goofy hits. Mondays, 9pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017. www.facebook.com/ManicMondays.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Head @ Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm

Nazarin @ MACC, 8pm

The Nutcracker @ Cepeda Branch Library, 6pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

The Blind Pets Beauty Bar

TUESDAY 21

CHILD SAFETY-SEAT INSPECTIONS

Call 854-3248 to schedule your inspection courtesy of the Travis County Sheriff's Office. 10am-1pm. Lake Travis Fire Rescue Station 605, 3048 Steiner Ranch Blvd., 854-3248. Free.

JEWISH BUSINESS NETWORK MEETING Bring your business cards, résumé, and other professional accoutrements for an evening of schmoozing with other chosen people. Third Tuesdays, 6pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 735-8000. Free. www.austijnbn.org.

GRASSROOTS ACTION IN THE CLIMATE MOVEMENT Scott Parkin from Rainforest Action Network and Rising Tide North America shows a short video before discussing the growing number of upstart orgs fighting the good fight against big oil and

big coal. 7pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

TUEZGAYZ Barbarella has gotten too big for her britches – so she got bigger. More room means more glitter. Tuesdays, 10pm. Barbarella, 615 Red River, 476-7766. www.barbarellaustin.com, www.thegloritoris.tumblr.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Love Actually @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

The Seagull's Laughter @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Ladies' Night at Armadillo Christmas Bazaar Palmer Events Center

WEDNESDAY 22

GAY SENSITIVE AA MEETING You don't have to be a UT student; you just have to want to quit drinking. Meet in the basement of the School of Social Work every Hump Day at lunchtime. Noon-12:45pm. UT School of Social Work, 1925 San Jacinto, 475-8352. hn85@mail.utexas.edu, i.grahovac@uhs.utexas.edu.

IMAGINE CHRISTMAS Music, dance performances, and acrobats get in the spirit of the season for this family-friendly extravaganza. Reserve your seats online and bring a nonperishable food item for the church's Feed the Community program. Wed., Dec. 22, 7:30pm; Thu., Dec. 23, 5:30 & 7:30pm; Fri., Dec. 24, 2, 4, & 6pm. Gateway Church, 7104 McNeil, 837-2162. Free. www.gatewaychurch.com/imagine-christmas.

OCH RETRO NIGHT: BACK TO THE BOATHOUSE Come for the memories at this veritable class reunion of an old beloved Austin gay bar with all your Eighties tricks, tunes from the times, and drinks for \$1. Not exactly Reaganomics, thank God. Wednesdays, 10pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Nothing Lasts Forever @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

The Great Silence @ Milwood Branch Library, 6:30pm

The Holy Mountain @ Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm

Kate X Messer (Gay Place): gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports): gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

James Renovitch (everything else): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

For FAQs and an online submission form, go to austinchronicle.com/commform.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

ongoing

A NOVEL GIFT TO THE LIBRARY Need a gift idea for that charitable person who has everything? Donate a book to the public library in the name of the giftee by sending in the downloadable form to the library. Find all the details online. 974-7400. www.cityofaustin.org/library/novel.htm.

APPLIANCE REBATE PROGRAM If you're in the market for a new energy-saving appliance, now is the time to start thinking about buying. Starting Dec. 20, Texans will be able to call or go online to sign up for rebates on a first-come, first-served basis. If things go according to plan, you'll be able to take that rebate to a local store and purchase the appliance and receive money back. Go online for more details and limitations; they are numerous. 877/780-3039. www.texaspowerfulsmart.org.

ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Nothing says holidays in Austin like scouring aisles and aisles of local art, crafts, and lord knows what else, surrounded by tunes from one of many musical acts performing this year. Don't worry; Post Office reps will be on the premises (until Dec. 20) to spare you from lugging all those herbal soaps home for the holidays. Dec. 15-24, 11am-11pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 447-1605. \$4, weekdays till 7pm; \$7, evenings and weekends. www.armadillobazaar.com.

BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Need something Austin-y (art, jewelry, prints, clothing, etc., whatnot, and then some) for a loved one this year? More than 100 artists and artisans will help you with your gifting conundrums. Special events occur throughout the month of December, so shop often. Through Dec. 24, 10am-10pm (Fridays & Saturdays, 10am-12mid). The Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 454-2000. Free admission. www.bluegenieartbazaar.com.

BUDA TRAIL OF LIGHTS What better way to combine your love of the Hill Country's historic sites and the holidays than with a display of twinkling lights? Come early and explore the 51 acres of natural beauty beforehand. Dec. 16-22, 6-10pm. Historic Stagecoach Park, 880 Main St., Buda, 512/312-0084. Free. www.ci.buda.tx.us/buda-events.

COMMUNICATE QUEERLY Finally! A socially intricate yet easy-to-use Web presence designed to "help foster communication and planning within the queer community to avoid competing events." Thank you, Poochie. Go check it out, and load up all your events. Now! What are you waiting for? Free. www.communicatequeerly.com, www.facebook.com/communicateATX.

EMILYANN THEATRE TRAIL OF LIGHTS As long as the weather is good, there will be 9 acres of illuminated decorations for your holiday gawking. Hot dogs, hot chocolate, marshmallow roasting, and live entertainment round out the festivities. Through Dec. 31, 6-9pm. The EmilyAnn Theatre, 1101 FM 2325, Wimberley, 512/847-6969. Free. www.emilyann.org.

FLAVORS FOR SAVORS So you're donating blood. What do you want, a pint of ice cream from Amy's Ice Creams? Done and done. Go online for a list of donation spots. Blood Center of Central Texas, 4300 N. Lamar, 206-1266. www.inyourhands.org.

FREE SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES Pets whose owners live within certain Austin ZIP codes are eligible for a free rabies shot, collar and tag, a microchip, and spay/neuter services. Call to check your eligibility and to schedule an appointment. Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez, 587-7729. Free.

FRONT STEPS HOLIDAY DONATION DRIVE Go online to find out what the people at Front Steps could use to help those in need this holiday season, and drop it off during business hours. Through Dec. 31. Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, 500 E. Seventh, 305-4174. www.frontsteps.org.

GIVE A PET A SECOND CHANCE Want to help Austin Pets Alive but can't take a cat or dog into your home? Sponsor a pet this season and help them find homes and stay healthy. A list of animals to be sponsored can be found at the APA offices. Through Jan. 1. Austin Pets Alive!, 2807 Manchaca, 961-6519. www.austinpetsalive.org.

HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW This local coffee shop has been stepping up its holiday light game for years.

Every hour the lights and music explode with the spirit of the holidays. Through Dec. 31, 6pm-12mid. Mozart's Coffee Roasters, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900. Free. www.austintexaschristmaslights.com.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS PET DRIVE The Town Lake Animal Center is lowering its adoption fee from \$75 to \$35 for the majority of its dogs and cats during the holidays. We don't recommend pets as gifts, but if you've got room in your home and heart, TLAC can help get a pet in your life. Through Dec. 31, 11:30am-7pm (excluding holidays). Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez. www.getapetnow.com.

MCCOY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY Forty thousand synchronized lights ensure that your holidays are filled with joy ... and possibly seizures. Through Dec. 31, 5:30-10:30pm. 8304 Roan, 698-6944. Free. www.mccoylights.com.

MEXICAN PEOPLE IN INDEPENDENCE & REVOLUTION EXHIBIT This exhibit gathers books, prints, photos, manuscripts, and other ephemera to tell the story of Mexico's history from independence (1810) to revolution (1910). Benson Latin American Collection, UT campus, Sid Richardson Hall, Unit 1, 2300 Red River, 495-4520. Free. www.lib.utexas.edu/benson.

MEXICAN-AMERICAN TRAILBLAZERS EXHIBIT features photos and bios of 32 local individuals who paved the way for future generations. Through Jan. 16. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 974-7498. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library/ahc/trailblazers.htm.

SANTA'S RANCH Santa's tired of waiting for global warming to catch up at the North Pole. He's spending most of his time among the 1.5 million lights of Santa's Ranch. Get in the car, and join in the festivities. Through Jan. 2, 6-10pm. 9561 N. I-35, New Braunfels (two miles south of Tanger Outlet Mall), 830/743-1293. \$20 per car. www.santasranch.net.

SUPPORT FOR ANTHONY GRAVES who was exonerated after spending 18 years on death row. The Texas Moratorium Network is collecting funds to help him get on his feet while he navigates the long legal process to receive compensation from the state of Texas. www.anthonysgraves.org.

ZILKER TREE HOLIDAY FESTIVAL No Trail of Lights again this year, but the tree is still available for spinning under. There will be nightly entertainment, concerts, and a lighted pedestrian footpath display to help you from going into twinkly-light withdrawal. Through Dec. 21, 5:30-9:30pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/zilker/zhtree.htm.

upcoming

GAYLICIOUS! Watch this space for more info on this upcoming kinkfest. Singer/comedienne/actress Jade Esteban Estrada (Comedy Central, Bravo TV) returns with a "glittery, all-new, high-energy, interactive showgasm." Thu.-Sat., Dec. 30-Jan. 1 and Jan. 6-8, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-LAVA. \$20-\$15 sliding scale; \$10, starving artists. www.getjaded.com.

HAWAIIAN CHRISTMAS PARTY Bruce, you look hawt in that coconut bra. So rock that lei at this annual holiday tradition. Homemade food starts at noon; come have dinner with famblly. Sat., Dec. 25, noon. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481. Free.

HRC LOVE FEST It's coming up on HRC's annual gala, and this year, its proximity to V-Day (you know: hearts, flowers, lube ...) should encourage spontaneous outbursts of luv luv luv all over the place. Watch this space for info about this year's awardees, and get your tickets before they go up in price. Sat., Feb. 12, 6:30-10:30pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 478-4500. \$275; discounted to \$225 until Dec 31. www.hrcaustin.org.

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION FORUM The Texas Department of Transportation hosts this three-day exchange of ideas and brainstorming about the future of movement in Texas because things are getting pretty crowded around here. Register online. Jan. 3-5. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 936-4241. \$325-575. www.texastransportationforum.com.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

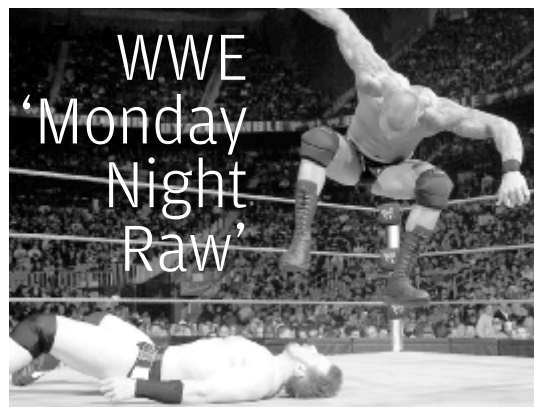
The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Dec. 31 issue is Monday, Dec. 20.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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sports

BY MARK FAGAN

listings



'Twas five nights before Christmas,
and all through the house
not a creature was stirring,
because they'd all been laid out by a chair shot.

Seems like Austin has been good all year. Not only is the **WWE's** flagship show back for the second time in six months, but wrestling fans get **Raw's** final show before Christmas. With the "Tables, Ladders & Chairs" pay-per-view in Houston on Sunday, there are plenty of chances that Monday's triple-threat headliner of **Wade Barrett** and **Randy Orton** vs. WWE champion **The Miz** could change. But whatever happens, like the champ always says, it's bound to be aaaaawesome. **Mon., Dec. 20, 7:15pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 471-7744. \$15-60.** — Richard Whittaker

THE MAIN EVENT

★ **AUSTIN TOROS** The Toros welcome the Reno Bighorns with lots of opportunities for fans to get in the holiday spirit. They are offering free tickets for military families, and there will be a blood drive at 3pm with all donors receiving free admission, a Toys for Tots gift drive offering a free ticket in exchange for a new (unwrapped) toy, and an appearance from the man himself, Santa Claus. **Sun., Dec. 19, 5pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$5-100. www.austintoros.com.**

THE HOME TEAMS

★ **UIL FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS** The state finals! Winner takes all! Bragging rights for life! **Lake Travis** will be trying for its fourth straight state title, and two other Central Texas teams are in the finals as well. All games are in Arlington and Mansfield; see website for playoff brackets and venues. **1A Division II, 3A D-II, and 4A D-II: Fri., Dec. 17. 1A D-I, 2A D-I and II, 4A D-I, and 5A D-I and II: Sat., Dec. 18. \$5-12. www.uilutexas.org.**

TEXAS STARS For more on the Stars, see the *Chronicle* Sports blog at austinchronicle.com/thescore. Vs. Oklahoma City: **Sat., Dec. 18, 7pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/467-8277. \$10-50. www.texasstarshockey.com.**

TEXAS STATE Men's Basketball Vs. Texas Southern: **Thu., Dec. 16, 7pm. Strahan Coliseum. \$6-10. Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas Southern: **Sun., Dec. 21, 6pm. Strahan Coliseum. \$4-6. www.txstatebobcats.com.**

Got a sporting event you'd like to see listed in *The Austin Chronicle*?
Submit your sporty happening online at
austinchronicle.com/commform.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Southwestern/Trinity Classic: **Fri., Dec. 17: Trinity vs. Albion, 2pm. Southwestern vs. Hardin-Simmons, 4pm. Sat., Dec. 18: Trinity vs. Hardin-Simmons, 2pm. Southwestern vs. Albion, 4pm. All games at Robertson Center. Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas Lutheran: **Fri., Dec. 17, noon. Robertson Center. www.southwesternpirates.com.**

RECREATION & FITNESS

YAPPY HOUR Attend these monthly sessions to learn how to help acclimate your pup to fully enjoy a nice paddle out on the lake. **Tue., Dec. 21, 6-7pm. Rowing Dock, 2418 Stratford, 459-0999. \$10-15. www.rowingdock.com.**

CHAPARRAL ICE Austin's premier rink folks offer free first lessons every Saturday for ages 6 and older. **Saturdays, noon. Chaparral Ice, 14200 N. I-35, 252-8500, and Northcross Mall, 451-5102. Free. www.chaparralice.com.**

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

WILD BASIN WILDERNESS has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. www.wildbasin.org.

VERN'S NO FRILLS 5K NO. 21 **Sat., Dec. 18, 8am. Berry Springs Park & Preserve, 1801 CR 152, Georgetown, 512/724-3774. \$1 for adults.**

AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION has fun biking adventures. www.austincycling.org/rides.html.

AUSTIN REINDEER RUN 5K AND KIDS' K **Sat., Dec. 18, 8:30am. Camp Mabry, 2200 W. 35th, 877/258-RACE (7223). \$10-25. www.austinreindeerrun.com.**

FOOTBALL WATCH

It's been a rough year for football fans in the Lone Star State, and this week was no exception. While many UT football fans pegged defensive coordinator **Will Muschamp** as **Mack Brown's** eventual successor, those hopes ended when Muschamp accepted the head coaching job at the University of Florida. Good luck to Muschamp, but not the best news for UT supporters.

Houston Texans fans were dealt another body blow this week with an excruciating loss to the Baltimore Ravens last Monday. Houston (5-8) mounted an epic second-half comeback scoring 21 unanswered points to send the game to overtime only to lose it on a **Matt Schaub** interception returned 12 yards for a game-ending TD.

The 4-9 Cowboys led the Eagles 20-14 with 7:44 remaining in the third but couldn't hold on to the lead eventually losing 30-27 in large part due to the **Mike Vick-DeSean Jackson** combo. Jackson was targeted eight times for four catches, 210 yards, and a 91-yard fourth-quarter TD strike. Many prognosticators tagged both Houston and Dallas as likely playoff teams before the season started, with the Cowboys picked to be the first team to host a Super Bowl in their own stadium. But this season has been a big disappointment for both franchises who have next to nothing to play for in their remaining three games.

The Cowboys host the equally inept Redskins (5-8) Sunday at noon on Fox while the Texans visit the flailing Titans (5-8) on CBS at the same time.

Read more "Football Watch" online at austinchronicle.com.

BY NICK BARBARO Soccer watch



The selection of **Qatar** to host the **2022 World Cup** continues to rankle in various quarters – and concerns about the FIFA voting process are giving way to more wide-ranging concerns about human-rights violations and civil-liberty policies in the emirate. FIFA President **Sepp Blatter** (left) stepped in it this week and when asked what gay fans should do about **homosexuality being illegal** in Qatar, he jokingly replied, "I would say they should refrain from any sexual activities." Heh, heh. OK, then

Congolese champions **Tout Puissant (All-Powerful) Mazembe Englebert** upset defending world champs Internacional of Brazil on Tuesday to become the first African team ever to make the final of the **FIFA Club World Cup**. Every previous final has been Europe against South America. Mazembe will face European champions **Inter Milan** in Saturday's final. No U.S. team in the CWC, of course, but two U.S. players are there: Midfielder **José Torres** and striker **Herculez Gomez** both started for Mexico's Pachuca, the CONCACAF champion who finished fifth after losing to Mazembe in the first round.

And so the circle goes: Earlier this year, **South Africa** famously hosted the continent's first World Cup, and African teams largely disappointed on the field; now the year ends with an African club going where none has gone before, in a tournament held in Abu Dhabi, **United Arab Emirates**, just across the gulf from Qatar, which will famously host the Middle East's first World Cup in 2022.

The **Akron Zips** won the **NCAA Division I men's championship** Sunday, beating previously undefeated Louisville, 1-0, in the final. It's Akron's first NCAA title in any sport.



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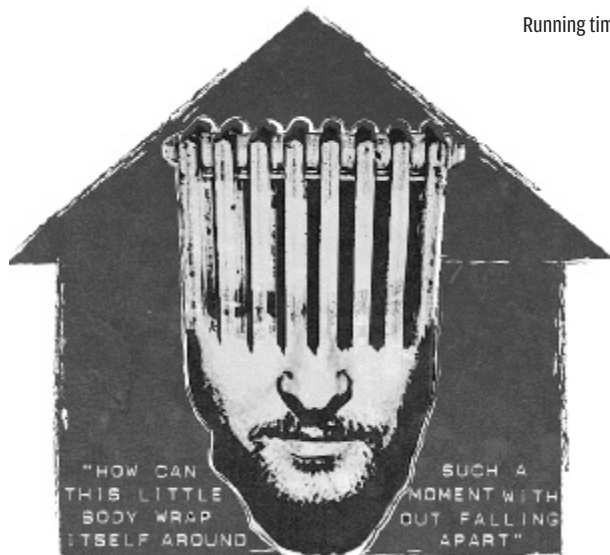
TexasStarsHockey.com

arts listings

Crumble (Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake)

Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale, 684-3220
www.poisonappleinitiative.com

Through Dec. 18
 Running time: 1 hr., 30 min.



For something to crumble, it needs to exist perfectly beforehand – the precrumbled version, the Platonic ideal – a reminder, after time and events have eroded our lives, of what used to be.

A fall from grace necessitates the existence of grace.

History was perfect – it's the present day that has fallen to such depths. That's the daily existence of Janice and her mother, the central characters of *Crumble* (*Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake*), who are dealing very poorly with tragedy a year after the incident occurred. Janice's father has long since left the apartment in which they reside, but no repairs have been made in the family dynamic. Where once there were three, now there are two wishing there were three, incapable of communicating even that much to each other.

This familial desolation is the undercurrent of *Crumble*, although the surface of the play masks that meaning with meta characters, eccentricities, and dark humor. It's not just the family that's crumbling, see – their apartment is a dilapidated mess, and its corporal manifestation (played with dandy anger by Michael Slefinger) flits around his dwellers, demanding that they save him while pontificating about his elegant days of yore.

Add to that a crazy cat-lady aunt and 11-year-old Janice's foul-mouthed fantasy conversations, and as an audience member, you sometimes find yourself desperate for a real conversation between people. The

only "real" conversations that Janice or her mother can have are with Justin Timberlake and Indiana Jones, respectively, the male manifestations of their desires. Although I understand that the purpose of the play isn't to provide a grounded focus on broken family dynamics, at times it felt like playwright Sheila Callaghan allowed the more abstract, quirky parts of her play to deviate from what really matters.

Poison Apple Initiative's production keeps the play moving at a good pace, and I never felt like I had to wait for the next beat. But I'm not sure if the Blue Theatre was the right venue for Director Bastion Carboni's staging. When the action moves above for bit parts, it's difficult to focus on and not well-lit. The main part of the Blue's stage is given over to the dilapidated apartment, but at times it feels like there could be more separation in that space.

I have mixed views about the way *Crumble* resolves itself and the agency it relates to grief: if not a *deus ex machina*, the happy ending requires some quite fortuitous events to transpire. Ultimately, *Crumble* is about the way we react to grief, not how we get over it. When it focuses on that erosion instead of its more eccentric elements, it can be emotionally provoking.

– Avimaan Syam

theatre

OPENING

FEAST OF FOOLS: MERRIMENT & MISRULE

This holiday shindig from **Shrewd Productions** is a one-weekend festival of song, dance, comedy, and games, replete with gourmet treats, prizes, live music, and a silent auction. It's a wild feast where you could be crowned King or Queen of Misrule. And dance numbers choreographed by **Sharon Sparlin**? Yes. And a performance from those Mametian **Confidence Men**? Oh, oh yes! *Thu.-Sat., Dec. 16-18, 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 626-5901. \$20-30. www.shrewdproductions.com.*

SUCK MY CHRISTMAS! The darling diva Rebecca Havemeyer and the dapper demon Stanley Roy bring much fabulousness and music in this "musical romp over the Yule Log of entertainment" with Little Stolen Moments, Silky Shoemaker, and Dr. Bruce Kirkland. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 17-18, 8pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$10. www.ndvenue.com.*

RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR And we reckon, yes, "spectacular" is the precise word here as NYC's fabulous Rockettes bring all their happy holiday hoofing and hullabaloo to UT's Bass Concert Hall, courtesy of your friends at Broadway Across America. *Fri., Dec. 17, 5 & 8pm; Sat.-Sun., Dec. 18-19, 11am, 2, 5 & 8pm; Tue.-Wed., Dec. 21-22, 2 & 7:30pm; Thu., Dec. 23, 2, 5 & 8pm; Fri., Dec. 24, 1pm; Sun., Dec. 26, 11am, 2, 5 & 8pm. Bass Concert Hall, 23rd Street & Robert Dedman Drive, UT campus, 471-1444. \$25.50. www.broadwayacrossamerica.com.*

ROB NASH: BOXED SET Hard to conjure anything more accurate than the PR blurb: Here are "The very greatest hits and new favorites of Austin's one-man comedy sensation." Well, Nash isn't the city's *only* one-man comedy sensation – take a goddamn number, amirite? – but, theatrewise, he's easily one of the best. *Fri.-Dec., Dec. 17-18, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30. www.vortexrep.org.*

MENAGERIE ON A HOT TIN STREETCAR If you recognize the sources of the title, we can pretty much guarantee you'll enjoy this one-night event, and it's *only a staged ensemble reading*. But, see, it's also a test-run of "the definitive Tennessee Williams mash-up," and it was written with divine parodic madness by **Rob Nash**. Yeah. Yeah. Directed by Van Brooks. *Sun., Dec. 19, 6:30pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$5. www.vortexrep.org.*

AUSTIN BABTIST WOMEN: A VERY PINK CHRISTMAS

The all-male, all-volunteer comedy fundraising troupe hosts this 25th annual holiday extravaganza at Oilcan Harry's to benefit the Breast Cancer Resource Center. *Sun., Dec. 19, 6:30pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823. \$5. www.babtistwomen.com.*

ABUELITA'S CHRISTMAS CAROL Abuelita, the 70-year-old Mexican-American grandmother, returns in this heart-warming holiday show, written and performed by Alex Garza. *Mon.-Wed., Dec. 20-22, 8pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 524-2870. \$10. www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

CLOSING

STEPHEN SONDHEIM'S COMPANY This seldom-staged Sondheim is brought to the Austin scene by Doctuh Mistah Productions (which previously delighted us with *Evil Dead: the Musical*) under the direction of Michael McKelvey. *Dec. 16-19. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 339-4934. \$10-25. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

STEEL MAGNOLIAS Barry Pineo directs Robert Harling's wise and wisecracking Southern comedy classic for City Theatre. See review, p.66. *Through Dec. 19. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 524-2870. \$10-25. www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

WINTERLAND: A JOURNEY THROUGH CHRISTMAHANUKWANZAAKKAH

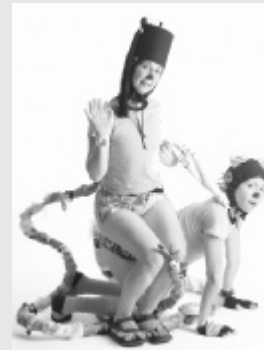
Color us gob-smacked as we list this: A chick & a dude productions' first *kid-friendly* show, in which the Winter Wizard conjures a joyful, multiculti exploration of the holiday season. Written by Melissa Livingston and Shanon Weaver, directed by Livingston, enhanced by magic elves. *Through Dec. 19. Fri., 7pm; Sat., 2 & 5pm; Sun., 2pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 921-4264. \$12 (\$10, children). achickandadude@gmail.com.*

A KODACHROME CHRISTMAS This new holiday comedy presents "cable-access TV hostess Earlene Hoople, the self-proclaimed Queen of Rural Media, as she tapes her first Christmas special in front of a live audience." Written and directed by Pat Hazell, the one-man retro dynamo of *The Wonder Bread Years*. *Dec. 16-19. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 & 8pm; Sun., 3 & 7pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 474-5664. \$34-39. www.thelongcenter.com.*

The Ratgirls Go to Hell

O, come all ye faithful to witness this dance-spiced, music-enhanced, infernal journey full of emotional danger, sticky drinks, and random celebrity carnage as the mind-meltingly messy Ratgirls' holiday apical returns to Salvage Vanguard Theater to put the *rodentia* into your Merry Christodentiamas. "Now with 30% new jokes and 50% new dancings!"

Recommended, because who doesn't totally love those natty bratty Ratgirls? *Through Dec. 18. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10 (\$8.57, exact change; \$5, students). www.gnaptheater.org.*



A CHRISTMAS CAROL Award-winning actress and storyteller Bernadette Nason performs Charles Dickens' own abridged version of his famous yuletide tale, bringing vivid life to more than 30 characters, along with bells, chains, and other sound effects. We kid you not: This is the *Carol* to see. *Through Dec. 21. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20 (half price for students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL Horton Foote's heartwarming classic about the power of home is directed by Don Toner for Austin Playhouse and features Mary Agen Cox, Tom Parker, Scotty Roberts, and others. *Through Dec. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$26-35. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

CRUMBLE (LAY ME DOWN, JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE)

The Poison Apple Initiative's newest is a weird comedy by Sheila Callaghan, directed by Bastion Carboni, in which Janice (inspired by visits from J. Timberlake) and her mother, Clara, fight against an apartment that is, literally, plotting to kill them after the death of the paterfamilias. See review, left. *Through Dec. 18. Wed.-Sat., 8pm. The Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale. \$15 (pay what you can, Thursdays). www.poisonappleinitiative.com.*

LA PASTORELA This contemporary musical comedy (based on a yuletide play from American Indian and Latino communities, traditionally performed since the late 16th century) is presented by the Austin Latino Theater Alliance under the direction of Patricio Villarreal Avila. *Through Dec. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River. \$15 (\$8, students, seniors). www.lapastorela.org.*

DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW Four days before Christmas in the tiny town of Tinsel, Texas, a bunch of eccentric guests arrive at the Snowflake Inn in this Jones Hope Wooten comedy, directed by Andy Brown. *Through Dec. 18. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sam Bass Community Theatre, 600 N. Lee St., Round Rock, 512/244-0440. \$15 (\$13, seniors, students; \$10, Wednesdays & Thursdays). www.sambasstheatre.org.*

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brenner@austinchronicle.com.

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Steel Magnolias

City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 524-2870

www.citytheatreAustin.org

Through Dec. 19

Running time: 2 hr., 30 min.

It appears categorically impossible to present a performance of *Steel Magnolias* without leaving the audience in tears by the end. It's almost worthwhile to stage an alternative production set in the 1780s, featuring masked, male actors in drag with German accents, just to see if that holds true.

Fortunately, City Theatre has taken a more traditional approach with its production of Robert Harling's now-classic play about six quirky Southern women who draw strength from one another to survive life's ups and downs. In case you're one of the three people who missed the 1989 film adaptation with Julia Roberts and Sally Field, the entire play takes place in a small-town Louisiana beauty parlor, where these women gather to celebrate life's passages: weddings, births, sicknesses, and deaths.

Given the avalanche of literary and cinematic works celebrating Southern women's strength and friendship that have appeared since *Steel Magnolias*, it's easy to dismiss this sort of play as just one more entry in a tried-and-true subgenre. *Steel Magnolias* is still the gold standard, however. The dialog is witty and often hilarious; the characters are charming. The storyline heads for tragedy like a freight train, but it is touching and beautiful along the way. The events take place more than 20 years ago, but the story has not lost its power in that time. By the

end, it's easy to feel as though it's your family who has suffered loss – and your friends who have surrounded you with comfort.

Director Barry Pineo, who is also a long-time writer for the *Chronicle's* Arts section, has introduced some interesting ideas in the staging. Between scenes, the actors dress and prepare onstage, in full view, in what feels like a curious but harmless experiment. The multiple levels of the set are a strong choice, although overall the scenery seems thrown together and low on the company's priority list. (There is no set designer listed, which might be why.)

The positive chemistry between cast members is obvious. Annie Dragoo as M'Lynn and Ellen Massey as Clairee have the strongest grasp of the rhythms and inner workings of their characters. Not everyone in the cast has mastered the art of the throwaway line – sometimes humor needs to be tossed off rather than highlighted and pointed at – but as a group they carry the story well. Ultimately, they carry each other through the evening, just like the characters they play. – Elizabeth Cobbe

ONGOING

SCROOGE, THE MUSICAL This vigorous stage adaptation of the 1970 holiday film is directed by Ron Watson out in Georgetown. The Dickens, you say! *Through Dec. 30. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Palace Theater, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. \$24 (\$22, seniors; \$14, students, military; \$10, children).* www.thegeorgetownpalace.org.

SANTALAND DIARIES The classic David Sedaris holiday treat returns, this time with Zach's original star, Martin Burke, as the beleaguered and snarky elf Crumpet. And of course the sonic and visual loveliness of Meredith McCall, accompanied by the expert ivory-tickling of Jason Conner, directed by Dave Steakley. When we called this a *treat*, we weren't just whistlin' "Jingle Bells." Recommended. *Through Dec. 31. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Extra show: Sat., Dec. 18, 4pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. \$39-48. www.zachscott.com.*

DINNER THEATRE

REALLY BAD SANTA A whodunit for your holidays: Gary Payne and his madcap Capital City Mystery Players present a humor-laced, interactive murder mystery where you, the audience, try to solve the crime after a Really Bad Santa attempts to sabotage the competition. *Fri., Dec. 17, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$33.50. www.capcitymystery.com.*

AUDITIONS

CHANTEUSE An actor is needed for the role of Sidney Feldman in this new musical, to be performed in February and March 2011 at the Silver Spur Theater in Salado, Texas. Transportation from Austin to Salado provided for tech and dress rehearsals and for performances. E-mail or call for details. 512/973-3885. lrcaliche@gmail.com.

THEATRE CALL BOARD

AUSTIN PLAYHOUSE: WINTER GALA Why, yes, this is a holiday fundraiser: this one from the good people of the AP and all decked out with catered noms and tasty libations, live music from the Copa Kings, and a swanky live auction sparking the mix's excitement. *Sun., Dec. 19, 6-10pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$35 (\$30, in advance).* www.austinplayhouse.com.

comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAFE CAFFEINE 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.cafecaffeine.com.

Comedysportz Competitive improv? Yes, a vigorous battle between skilled improvisers – sort of like *Highlander* but unscripted – and maestro **Les McGehee** and his talented friends bring it in full force each weekend to one of the sweetest little coffeehouses in the 78704. *Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30pm. \$7.*

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Vic Henley Now here's a breath of fresh grits: A Southern comic (native of Alabama, no less) who's like a sharp and polished antidote to that whole Blue Collar thing. Yes, thank you! **Trey Galyon** opens. *Dec. 16-18. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. www.coldtownetheater.com.

The Week in Coldness: Corporate Synergy promises to make good on ColdTowne's sketch-supremacy agenda. *Thu., 8pm. Midnight Society Presents the very fit Parkour Christmas Explosion. Thu., 10pm. Rapture the Flag* promises to make good on ColdTowne's sketch-supremacy agenda. *Fri., 8pm. Live at ColdTowne* is the house flavor of stand-up comedy, featuring some of Austin's best. *Fri., 10pm. Stool Pigeon* Improv sparked by the real-life stories of one of the troupe. *Sat., 8pm. Cage Match* Two improv teams go all *lucha libre* on each other for your grins and giggles. *Sat., 9pm. Stone Cold Improv* brings the clandestine clubbishness of **Secret Senate**. *Sat., 10pm. The Late Night Show* sizzles with **Midnight Society** and, yes, the everlovin' **Frank Mills**. *Sat., 11pm. Oh, and there are Free Shows*

on Sunday Night! Check them out, citizen. *Sun., 7 & 8pm.* Also, the **Monday Night Mash** happens each week, also with free admission, and can you guess the night on which it occurs at 8:30pm?

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.estersfolies.com.

Esther's Follies Esther's popular jesters bring the best of cheer with their Holiday Spectacular and Mistletoe Mayhem show this month. Sarah Palin checks out the weirdness of Sixth Street. Kerry Awn spotlights Rick Perry and George W. Bush, head-to-head on book tours. The Church of Everlasting Savings and Snuggie Choir sings about the holidays' "Buying Bonanza!" There's musical comedy, a political satire revue, and magician **Ray Anderson's** illusion – The Impaler! – gets all stabby with the stage-sized legerdemain. Reservations highly recommended. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20-27 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military).*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.hideouttheatre.com.

Thursday: The **Threefer** brings you sets by **Battlestar Gillacktucka**, **City High**, and the **Amazon & the Milksop: Fitzgeralds for Hire**. \$10.

Friday: The weekend's first show is **Nightmare Video Project**, featuring a retro evil VHS game show. *8pm. \$10.* Next, **The Spectacle!** features **Parallelogramophonograph** and, ooh, **Surprise Party**. *10pm. \$10.*

Saturday: Could anything warm your various cockles more than the magnificent improv of **Christmas With the Andersons**? *8pm. \$10. Maestro* is a fierce, elimination-style battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience, sure to bring out the wackiest. *10pm. \$10.*

Sunday: The Weekender Just a five-spot gets you into the perfect caper to your steady two-day vacation: sketch comedy somewhere between pure silly and near brilliant, from one of Austin's up-and-coming troupes. *7pm.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Jay LaFarr He's from New York by way of San Antonio, and he brings you what's left of the humor he used to survive Catholic school. **Maggie Maye** and **Avi Goren** open. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 17-18, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

Open Mic Night is hosted this week by **Avi Goren**. *Thursdays, 10pm.*

BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE!

KICK BUTT COMEDY OPEN MIC *Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.*

MOTHER PLUCKIN' COMEDY OPEN MIC Mike Navarrete and **Chance Royce** host this free-for-all, and they're offering prizes for funny people. *Mondays, following Monday Night Football. Pluckers, 9070 Research #201-C. 533-9464. Free. www.pluckers.com.*

AUSTIN SKETCH FEST: OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

The second annual Austin Sketch Fest, featuring acts from all over the country, will rock this town on Memorial Day weekend; will you be among the troupes bringing the sold-out crowds to near humor-spurred orgasm? Submit your video to show you've got what it takes. See website for details. Submission fee: \$10 (\$15, after Jan. 15). Deadline: *Feb. 1.* Mailing address: *ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, Austin, TX 78751. www.atxsketchfest.com.*

TIKI TUESDAYS @ CHERRYWOOD Local funnyman **Seth Cockfield** hosts an open mic where anybody can do a short set, but some of the city's top comedy talents break in their new material. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Cherrywood Coffeehouse, 1400 E. 38th.*

THE NEW MOVEMENT Acclaimed comedy instructors **Chris Trew** and **Tami Nelson** execute their brand of hijinks with talented friends and disciples. You want comedy? See the website for details, yes, but look: **The Megaphone Show** puts a local celeb onstage to spin tales of true truth before being interviewed and instantly improvised upon. *Wednesdays, 9:30pm. Free. Chris & Tami* Ah, the fearless leaders themselves, showing you how it's done, with **Control Group**. *Thu., Dec. 16, 8pm. Free. Killshot!* Stand-up showcase? Or be killed. *Fri., Dec. 10, 8pm. Hecklers Paradise* *Fri., Dec. 10, 9:30pm. TNM Christmas Special & Party* Kris Kringle in the motherfuckin' hizzouse! *Sat., Dec. 18, 8, 9:30, 11pm. New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood. www.newmovementtheater.com.*

So! Many! Dance! Classes!

Look for them here the third week of each month – and always online at austinchronicle.com.

You want to learn the moves and grooves of swing, of belly dancing, of flamenco, two-step, tap, and other ways of improving a floor? Seek here and online at austinchronicle.com/dance.

UPTOWN DANCE: PERFORMANCE & SOCIAL AFFAIR Ballroom, Latin, swing, salsa, country western, and tango performances and an open, social dance. BYOB. Sat., Dec. 18: 7pm, hors d'oeuvres and social dancing; 7:30pm, performances; 9pm-12mid, social dance. Uptown Dance Studio, 8868 Research #706, 459-5678. \$17-20 (\$7, social dance only).

BRASS OVARIES POLE DANCING Ongoing classes for aerial hoop and static/spinning pole dance will add a deep tint of Eros to your Terpsichore. 477-POLE. www.brassovariespoledancing.com.

MIDDLE-EASTERN BELLY DANCE WITH LA SHEN Access Gallery, 3701 Guadalupe #103. 454-9912. \$10, class; \$60, six-week session. www.vsatx.org.

BELLY DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research, 971-0188. www.twylabellydance.com.

BELLY DANCE CLASSES Tarrytown Dance, 2414 Exposition. \$12-15. www.najladances.com.

LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS Belly dancing, flamenco, salsa/merengue, and more. Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar #338, 416-8800. www.luciladance.com.

CONTRA DANCE You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught and called – with live music. **Weekly:** Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st. **First Friday:** Carpenters' Hall, 400 Josephine. **Third Saturday:** St. Paul Lutheran, 3501 Red River. 453-4225. www.austincontradance.org.

ZUMBA DANCE Latin-inspired international music and dance. Tuesdays, 5:45pm; Thursdays, 7pm. Brushy Creek Community Center. zumbaustin@yahoo.com.

FLAMENCO CLASSES Beginners: Thursdays, 8-9pm. Intermediate: Mondays, 8:15-9:15pm. Synergy Dance Studio, 3425 Bee Caves Rd. \$14 per class. 923-3270. www.myspace.com/chloebreville.

FLAMENCO CLASSES WITH PILAR ANDÚJAR www.pilarandujar.net.

FLAMENCO CLASSES WITH OLIVIA CHACON www.oliviaflamenco.org.

ARGENTINE TANGO CLASSES Khabele Studio, 701 W. Seventh. Student discounts available. www.tangointexas.com.

SPEAKEASY: SALSA LESSONS Tuesdays, 9pm. Speakeasy, 412 Congress, 476-8017. Free. www.speakeasyaustin.com.

WEST AFRICAN DANCE CLASSES Traditional West African dance taught by Jean-Clause Lessou from Abidjan, Ivory Coast. See website for times and locations. 507-0263. \$15. www.africandanceaustin.com.

BALLET AFRIQUE DANCE CLASSES Ballet Afrique's acclaimed dance studio offers a wide variety of classes exploring expressions of the cultures and experiences of the African Diaspora through professional dance. 3111 Manor Rd., 228-7060. Prices vary. www.balletafrique.org.

HAWAIIAN DANCE CLASSES The Hula Hulau Kaepa Polynesian Dance Academy is accepting students for beginning hula and Tahitian dance classes. Hawaiian Tiki Imports, 3500 S. Congress. 440-7171. www.tropicalcelevents.com.

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING Circle, line, couples' dances, led by Haskell Rosenthal. Mondays, 8:30-10:30pm. Galaxy Dance Studios, 1700 S. Lamar #338, 574-1228. \$7. www.galaxydancestudios.org.

BOLLYWOOD DANCE CLASSES Learn Bhangra, classical Indian style, and more. 10700 Anderson Mill #208, 432-5716. Prices vary. www.bollywoodshake.com.

THIS ONE'S FOR THE GIRLS Dance workshops for women only, taught by Debbie Figueroa and Patty Vo. Mosaic Austin, 5619 Airport. \$12 (\$10, members). www.austincitydanceclub.com.

GALAXY DANCE STUDIOS: CLASSES There's something for everyone, young and old, all week long. Galaxy Dance Studios, 1700 S. Lamar #338. www.galaxydancestudios.org.

COUNTRY WESTERN & SWING DANCE PARTY Come early for the lesson. Sundays, 6-9pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research #706. \$5 (\$15, walk-in special with classes). www.austinuaptowndance.com.

ADULT DANCE CLASSES The Dance Zone, 2323 San Antonio. 236-9328. www.inthedancezone.com.

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS Saturdays, 7:30-11pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research, 989-3939. www.austinballroomdancers.org.

CONTEMPORARY DANCE CLASSES TAUGHT BY CHERYL CHADDICK Sundays, 11:15am-12:45pm: The Dance Zone, 2323 San Antonio. Tuesdays, 6:45-8:15pm: Ballet Austin, 501 W. Third. 476-9151. www.chaddickdancetheater.com.

ADVANCED BALLET CLASS FOR AGES 13 AND OLDER Mondays, 6-7:30pm. Tapestry Dance Company, 2302 Western Trails, 474-9864. \$16 walk-in fee. www.tapestry.org.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL A variety of ballroom and Latin dances each night. No partner necessary. Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd., 32-DANCE. Fees vary. www.dancein.org.

AUSTIN PARKS AND RECREATION: CLASSES FOR KIDS Dance, gymnastics, and movement classes are taught at three locations. 323-6013. www.danceassociatesaustin.com.

TAPESTRY DANCE COMPANY North America's only professional tap company offers classes for adults and teens and even younger. 2302 Western Trails. 474-9864. www.tapestry.org.

SOLID CHROME DANCERS Learn the Texas two-step and Western swing in a real honky-tonk. Thursdays, 8pm. Broken Spoke, 3201 S. Lamar, 417-7383. \$8. www.myspace.com/solidchrome dancers.

BODY POSITIVE DANCE Adult jazz classes for students of all ages, sizes, genders, and abilities. Saturdays, 3pm. Galaxy Dance Studios, 1700 S. Lamar #338, 442-5299. \$10 (free if unemployed). www.bodypositivedance.org.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons) & 8:15-11pm (open dance). Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. www.aifd.cc.

NIA CLASSES Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:30am; Mon. & Thu., 6-7pm; Sat., 10:30am. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 922-1581. \$10 per class. www.cityofaustin.org/parks/hancock.htm.

NIASPACE STUDIO NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. www.niaspace.com.

KICK BUTT BLUES DANCE Fridays (except third Friday each month), 9pm-1am. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 736-2662. \$5. www.kickbuttcffee.com.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$5 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes in swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. Tuesdays, 7pm, classes; 9:30pm, open dance. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. www.fouronthefloor.com.

ARTHUR MURRAY DANCE STUDIO 13343 Hwy. 183 N. #285. 634-8171. ads.texdance.com.

Ebenezer's Journey



Interactive journey through Charles' Dickens "Christmas Carol," a special holiday show. Live reenactors. Historic setting. Festive

holiday program for the whole family. Vendors, food and more.

A NEW AUSTIN TRADITION!

FOUR NIGHTS ONLY!

Dec. 10-11, 17-18

7-10PM nightly

\$12 per person, at the door

Advance tickets at BrownPaperTickets.com

PIONEER FARMS

AUSTIN'S PREMIER LIVING HISTORY PARK

Exit I-35 at Braker Lane, go east and follow the signs

More details at pioneerfarms.org



www.idodesign.com

South Austin Popular Culture Center



Come to the Center's booth and See **STUFF** Like **THIS**

Plus **Posters, cds, vintage albums, photos, tshirts, and pick up info about the Center**

Special events:

December 17th

Evelyn Erickson book signing

"Moments In Time"

7:09pm—10pm

December 18th

Armadillo Art Squad 1pm—6pm

December 19th

Sam Hurt Day! 1pm—6pm



At the Armadillo Christmas Bazaar
December 15-24
11am - 11pm daily



SPECIAL OFFERING:

Under special arrangement with the artist, Gilbert Shelton original drawings will be available for purchase. Don't miss this rare opportunity!

Palmer Events Center

‘Turner to Monet: Masterpieces From the Walters Art Museum’

Blanton Museum of Art, MLK & Congress, 471-7324
www.blantonmuseum.org
 Through Jan. 2



The portrait of William T. Walters that greets visitors to “Turner to Monet: Masterpieces From the Walters Art Museum” is so decidedly glum – the mournful basset-hound eyes under weeping

willow brows, the snowy walrus mustache drooping below the chin like an outsized furry frown, the hands tightly clasped in front of the long, black topcoat in the manner of an undertaker – as to create the impression that the Baltimore liquor and railroad magnate is none too happy with the art you’re about to see. But perhaps his doleful aspect has less to do with the works themselves than with the direction that he saw art taking in the final decades of his life. As the exhibition title indicates, this selection from the vast art holdings that Walters and his son Henry amassed spans the 19th century, a time in which European and American painters moved from the clean edges and naturalistic portrayals of the classical tradition into the indistinct, extravagantly hued experimentations of impressionism. For many, that progression proved unsettling.

See, in the front half of the 1800s, how the past is still present and the rural rules. That’s clear in the show’s first blockbuster works, *Raby Castle, the Seat of the Earl of Darlington*, by J.M.W. Turner (1817), and *The Catskills*, by Asher B. Durand (1859). Both landscapes offer breathtaking vistas that seem to extend into infinity. Turner’s massive, swirling clouds sweep across the top half of the canvas like gods at play, dwarfing everything on the rolling hills below: rider, hounds, trees, even the castle itself. Durand lets the trees do the dwarfing: Black birches and sycamores tower over us at the edge of a drop-off into Plaaterkill Clove. This is nature as Nature, majestic and imposing, yet able to be tamed by man, as evident in the westward expansion across North America.

Beyond these works hang more pastoral images, peaceful fields in which sheep and cattle graze and peasants labor. Trees may still tower and clouds glower, as in Jules Dupré’s curiously luminous *A Bright Day* (1835-40) and Jean-François Millet’s *The Potato Harvest* (1855), but neither animal nor human betrays any sign of concern. At the end of the day – literally, in the case of Jules Adolphe Aimé Louis Breton’s *Returning From the Fields* (1871) – all is in harmony with the natural world. In the thick, golden weeds and white-topped green stalks that rise to their shoulders, three barefoot maidens seem to belong.

In the early 19th century, we belong in the natural world and have dominion over it. In the country scenes, the laborers in the field are reaping the crops they have sown, shepherding the livestock they have bred, and in the scenes drawn from the Bible and myths, the figures exert just as much control. The waters may churn in Eugène Delacroix’s *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1854), but the sleeping Jesus lies serenely in his disciples’ tempest-tossed boat, and in *Oedipus and the Sphinx* (1864), J.A.D. Ingres has rendered the warrior-hero with a casual confidence, nonchalantly leaning forward, his ample muscles relaxed, as he answers the beast’s deadly riddle. This was an era when answers were clear-cut; when perils could be beaten or, at the least, endured; when art idealized us in the way we wanted to see ourselves.

But then, in the back half of the century, things get blurry. The images begin to lose their smooth, romantic clarity; their classical and even bucolic heroism; their sense of order. They may show us in the natural world, as with the maiden placidly reading in Claude Monet’s *Springtime* (1872), but nature itself is reduced to blobs of white paint against smudges of green. The formal compositions of yore go off-kilter, as in Edgar Degas’ *Before the Race*, with its foregrounded jockeys and horses thrown against the left edge of the canvas. And the Edenic countryside and noble peasants of the field are supplanted by urban kiosks and the demimonde of cafe society. Could that dissolute young woman with the glazed stare in Édouard Manet’s *At the Café* (1879) be a prostitute? Even the subject of Mariano José María Bernardo Fortuny y Marsal’s *An Ecclesiastic* (1874) has a dissipated air to him, especially against that lurid crimson background. Its vibrant colors in almost blockish fields of color seem to anticipate the abstractions of modernism. For us looking back from the 21st century, these are thrilling images to see, but one can imagine a tycoon reared on nature and classicism to be dispirited by this turn toward the urban and abstract.

This collection charts – and impressively so – the passing of his time. And when you reach the end of it, it’s almost as if you can turn the corner and see the 20th century.

– Robert Faires

GNAP! FRIDAY NIGHT DELIGHTS: Seance The Secret Society of Blackbrow Mediums convenes to probe the supernatural regions unknown to ordinary mortals and, following your suggestions, communicate with the dearly (or otherwise) departed. Who ya gonna call? Fri., Dec. 17, 10pm. **Sarah 7** The all-star, all-woman improv troupe from over ColdTowne way invades SVT for egg-nog-oriented program activities, with live music by Jason Laney and opens **Parallelogramphonograph**. Fri., Dec. 17, 11:30pm. *Salvage Vanguard Theater*, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.gnaptheater.org.

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL Two Gnap!tastic improv troupes, one after the other. This weekend, **Bad Company** goes first, followed by the cerebral brawlers of the **Knuckleball Now**. Sat., Dec. 18, 10pm. *Salvage Vanguard Theater*, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.gnaptheater.org.

STAG COMEDY Live sketch comedy from **Master Pancake Theater**’s Joe Parsons and Ben Bartley, along with **The Mascot Wedding Show**’s David Jara and Mac Blake and even more Austin comedians, bringing the antics with bear suits, a war with aliens, dying mobsters, mysterious birthday cake, fading videogame icons, and like such as in the Iraq. Sat., Nov. 18, 5:30pm *Salvage Vanguard Theater*, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.salvagevanguard.org.

dance

LUCILA DANCE: CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION This dance and music event features dances from around the world, with a pre-performance social hour and open dancing after the show. Sat., Dec. 18, 7pm. *Studio2Gallery*, 1700 S Lamar #318. 416-8800. \$10 (\$5, kids). www.luciladance.com.

BIG RANGE DANCE FESTIVAL: CALL FOR CHOREOGRAPHERS It’s one of the fiercest modern-dance events in the Southwest. It’s run by Ellen Bartel, and it features artists and troupes from across the country and right here at home. Applications are now available online: www.bigrangeaustin.org.

BUENOS AIRES CAFE: UNA NOCHE PORTEÑA Tango and folklore singer Daniel Montserrat performs weekly. *Thursdays*, 7:30-10pm. *Buenos Aires Cafe*, 1201 E. Sixth, 382-1189. Free. www.buenosairescafe.com.

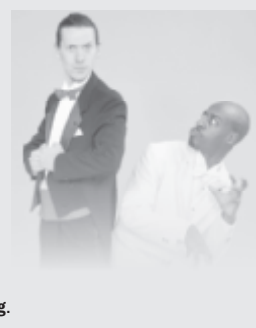
MELISSA AMIRA’S CAROUSEL CARAVAN Jeanette hosts this monthly shimmy, featuring a host of hot belly dancers in one of Austin’s coolest bars. CDs, DVDs, and costumes for sale. *Every third Saturday*, 8pm. *Carousel Lounge*, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790. Free. www.carouselounge.net.

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER This 48th annual *Nutcracker* boasts a cast of more than 200, including 160 Ballet Austin Academy students ages 8 and older, and is choreographed by Stephen Mills to the luscious music of Tchaikovsky (performed by the Austin Symphony). *Through Dec. 23. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun. 2pm. Also Tue., Dec. 21, 7:30pm; Wed.-Thu., Dec. 22-23, 2pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts*, 701 W. Riverside, 476-2163. www.balletaustin.org.

SPANK DANCE COMPANY: FREE BUTOH PERFORMANCE *Thu., Dec. 16, 7-7:30pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater*, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.spankdance.com.

Tapestry Dance Company: of Mice and Music

This hourlong rhythm-tap version of *The Nutcracker* adds live music and jazzy takes to the original’s most famous moments. *Through Dec. 19. Tue.-Sat., 7pm; Sun., 2pm. Boyd Vance Theatre at the Carver Museum*, 1165 Angelina, 974-4926. \$25. www.thelongcenter.org.



classical music

OPENING

CAROLING AT NOON Seasonal music and Christmas caroling, followed by an optional lunch. Free parking in church garage at Eighth and Trinity. This week:

Amy Brumley, soprano; Austin Haller, organ. *Thu., Dec. 16, noon. St. David’s Episcopal Church*, 301 E. Eighth, 610-3500. Free (\$8, with lunch). www.stdave.org/site/music/cat/concerts.

CHORUS AUSTIN: ON A WINTER’S EVE John Rutter’s “What Sweeter Music,” “Omnes de Saba venient” by Jacob Handl, “Baby, It’s Cold Outside” by Frank Loesser, “Missa ‘Adeste Fideles’” by Carlo Rossini, Randall Thompson’s popular “Alleluia,” “Carol of the Drum” by Katherine K. Davis, and more. *Sat., Dec. 18, 7pm. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church*, 7050 Village Center Dr., 719-3300. \$20 (\$15, seniors, students). www.chorusaustin.org.

AUSTIN CIVIC WIND ENSEMBLE: HOLIDAY CONCERT Herbert/Rogers’ “March of the Toys,” “L’italiana in Algeri” by Rossini, “Whisper to Their Soul” by Samuel Hazo, and more. *Sat., Dec. 18, 7:30pm; Andrews Presbyterian Church*, 14311 Wells Port. *Sun., Dec. 19, 2:30pm; Covenant United Methodist Church*, 4410 Duval Rd. Free. www.acwe.org.

GROUNDWORK MUSIC PROJECT: WINTER HOLIDAY CONCERT Perennial favorites, familiar Chanukah songs, and traditional Klezmer folk songs from Eastern European Jewish traditions. *Sat., Dec. 18, 3pm. Thunderbird Coffee*, 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900. Free. www.groundworkmusic.org.

ONGOING

NOONDAY CONCERT This weekly series features local professionals, students, and guests. Lunch follows (reservations required by 10am on day of the concert; if e-mailing, write “lunch” in the subject line). *Thursdays, noon. Central Presbyterian Church*, 200 E. Eighth, 472-2445. Free (lunch: \$5, adults; \$3, children). www.cpcastin.org.

visual arts

EVENTS

FLAMING-O RANCH: BLACK & WHITE & CHRISTMAS ALL OVER For your afternoon enjoyment: a stunning array of pottery and mosaics by Stefanie Distefano, vivid photography and limited-edition volumes of verse by David Jewell, with handcrafted jewelry from Jamie Bowers – all amid a laid-back Austin vibe of creativity. *Sat., Dec. 18, 2pm. 402 El Paso. www.flamingoranch.com*.

PRINT + ADDICTION: TWO DUDE STEW Industry Screenprint gets its beery party and DIY printshop on again, this time with artists **Josh Row** and **Brian MacIsaac** bringing their duderiffic graphic radiance to the Eastside design concern, with music by DJ hero **D. Fri., Dec. 17, 6-9pm. 2503-B E. Sixth. www.industryprintshop.com**.

BEN’S DOG & PONY SHOW Acclaimed neon sculptor **Ben Livingston** is more than gas and glass: See his early allegorical paintings and hear him leading the That’s What She Said band at this library-enlivening party. *Sun., Dec. 19, 4-6pm. 9411 Bee Cave Rd., 327-3045.*

THE BLANTON: THIRD THURSDAY’S FREE The admission’s waived; the Blanton Cafe extends its happy hour; the museum offers a yoga session (6:30pm), a workshop with the savants of **Okay Mountain** (7pm), and a guided tour of the current “Turner to Monet” exhibition (7:30pm). Fine art, excellent night. *Thu., Dec. 16. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. Free (passes are first come, first served at the admissions desk starting at 5:30pm). www.blantonmuseum.org*.

BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR It’s the 10th anniversary of this eminently shoppable powerhouse of local creativity and craft, now at the Marchesa in Lincoln Village. More art vendors than you can shake a newly discovered Picasso at, and much live music and general frivolity to brighten your way to the Christmas tree (or whatever object best corresponds in the holiday mythos you subscribe to). Recommended. *Through Dec. 24. Daily, 10am-10pm. 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 454-2000. www.bluegenieartbazaar.com*.

DIVERSEARTS: HOLIDAY PARTY A fine fundraising shindig (its fourth annual) brightens the New East Gallery this year, featuring live music from James Robinson and his band and a gourmet tasting gallery among the treasures of the visual-art exhibitions. *Sat., Dec. 18, 6-10pm. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. \$25 (\$45, couples). www.diversearts.org.*

CLOSING

IN HOUSE GALLERY: HOLIDAY SHOW It's the annual exhibition from Ethan Azarian and Melissa Knight, yes! *Thu., Dec. 16, 5-9pm. 2514 E. 17th, 628-0209. www.ethanazarian.net.*

LA PEÑA GALLERY: WE TO THE EDGE OF TIME Artwork by six women from Tamaulipas who are students of Cuban artist Jose Hernandez. *Through Dec. 23. 227 Congress #300, 477-6007. www.lapena-austin.org.*

TESTSITE: FULL FOREGROUND Rob Verf and writer and Roberto Tejeda's installation explores language. *Through Dec. 19. 502 W. 33rd. www.fluentcollab.org/testsite.*

VISUAL ARTS CENTER UT Art Faculty Exhibition Recent work by UT faculty artists in Studio Art, Art Education, and Design span the East Gallery and the Mezzanine Gallery. *Through Dec. 18. **Anthropogenesis** Curators Ariel Evans and Lauren Hamer present a show of new art – by Kelly Rae Burns, Kristina Felix, Margot Holtman, Jules Buck Jones, Jonathon Keats, and Jill Pangallo – in which animals and animal behavior are considered as an artistic source. *Through Dec. 18. 23rd and Trinity, 471-1108. www.utvac.org.**

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: WILL KLEMM New paintings delight the gallery walls. *Through Dec. 23. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

YARD DOG FOLK ART: TWO GUYS FROM READING + JESSE SUBLETT Antiques dealer Mike Miller lacerates vintage photos to create his silhouette collages; Dave “Big Dutch” Nally goes to town with colored pencil, acrylics and watercolor, and jewelry from found metal objects. And there's the direct-from-his-Moleskine “Colorful Women” show by author and musician Jesse Sublett, “Paint from Pain” works by Ian McLagan, and more. *Through Dec. 23. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.*

ONGOING

AMOA: 20 YEARS OF FLATBED PRESS The Austin Museum of Art's celebrating a double-decade of local fine-art print powerhouse Flatbed Press with a retrospective that features work by **Julie Speed, Trenton Doyle Hancock, Terry Allen, Michael Ray Charles, Melissa Miller, James Surls**, and others. Finally, a higher-profile show of what brilliance Flatbed has generated for so long. And “**New Works by Eric Zimmerman**.” Recommended. *Through Feb. 12. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.*

ART IN A NUTSHELL Ismael Cavazos, creator of “The Old Man in the Peanut,” features his diverse creations. *2209 S. First, 436-6551. www.ismaelcavazos.com.*

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY Artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos St., 457-0171. www.pablotaboadastudio.com.*

ARTHOUSE This newly remodeled stunner of a visual arts venue has a sweet array of exhibitions and artists’ talks to delight and inform and confound you. **Mequitta Ahuja: “Automythography II”** *Through Jan. 2. Ryan Hennessee: **The Specious Present at 700 Congress** *Through Jan. 2. Jason Middlebrook: “More Art About Buildings and Food”* *Through Jan. 16. Sofia Cordova: “Fiebre Tropical”* *Through Jan. 16. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthousetexas.org.**

AUSTIN ART GARAGE Original art by Austin artists. *2200-J S. Lamar, 351-5934. www.austinnartgarage.com.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS The glassblowing studio and gallery offers glass art, classes, and more. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinnartglass.com.*

AUSTIN DETAILS + ART: BEST OF THE FESTS The proprietors daresay they've gathered *all the best art from the various holiday festivals around town*. Reception: *Fri., Dec. 17, 6-8pm. Exhibition: *Through Jan. 31. 106 E. Eighth, 391-0999. www.austindetailsart.com.**

AUTHENTICITY GALLERY: LUMINESCENCE Lighted plexi towers designed and built by a local team, featuring *Kokopelli* by Kathi Herrin and *Luminescent Vines* by Greta Olivas. *Through Dec. 31. 910 Congress, 478-2787. www.authenticitygallery.com.*

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Handmade glass art and jewelry. *108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.*

BROCCA GALLERY New works by Augusto Brocca, Mary Morse, Jeffrey Primeaux, Kathleen Wilson, Tom Bishop, and Marja Spearman. *Through Jan. 15. 1103 E. Sixth, 628-1306. www.broccagallery.com.*

BUTRIDGE GALLERY: WOMEN PRINTMAKERS OF AUSTIN This annual exhibition features recent work from participating members. Also, the 2010 trade portfolio “Wanderings of the Id: A Suite of Dreams/ Nightmares.” *Through Dec. 29. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 974-4000. www.womenprintmakers.com.*

CHAMPION GALLERY: DAN RUSHTON The artist's new show, “Planted,” offers vivid images created by layering piece upon piece upon piece of painted paper. **Chris Sauter's** “Exploding Silos” paintings are featured in the Project Room. *Through Jan. 15. 800 Brazos, 354-1035. www.championcontemporary.com.*

CLAYWAYS An array of work by local potters. *Through Dec. 24. Tue.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., noon-5pm. 5442 Burnet Rd., 459-6445. www.clayways.com.*

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

D BERMAN GALLERY: 10TH ANNIVERSARY GROUP SHOW Many of the works here can be bought for less than \$1,000, and the people responsible for them are **Malcolm Bucknall, Ellen Berman, Cynthia Camlin, Jimmy Jalapeño, Lance Letscher, George Krause, Lauren Levy, Marjorie Moore, Joseph Phillips, Belli Liu, Jana Swec**, and, wow, even more. *Through Jan. 22. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

DAVIS GALLERY: CAPRICE PIERUCCI, DAVID EVERETT, AND DAVID HEFNER Three artists with distinct but strangely complementary styles brighten and complicate the walls of this fine gallery. *Through Dec. 31. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929. www.davisgalleryaustin.com.*

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. *701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.*

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and “sculptural tattoos” by Joyce DiBona. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646. www.joycedibona.com.*

DOMY BOOKS: YOU CAN OBSERVE A LOT BY WATCHING Devon Dikeou, the daring doyenne of *zing* magazine fame and much other creative brilliance, presents a show about how connections are made, where they lead (or don't), and the value of those connections, the various ways they can be lost, destroyed, outdated. Recommended. *Through Jan. 13. 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-3669. www.domystore.com.*

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.com.*

FASTFRAME'S PRICKLY PEAR GALLERY: FIVE AUSTIN ARTISTS Featuring Kim Brill's kiln-formed glass, Amy Hillenbrand's still-life oils, Nancy Michalewicz's wildlife oils, Debbi Smith Rourke's landscapes, and Paula Simpson's **edible chocolate paintings**. *Through Dec. 24. 4301 W. William Cannon, 288-8825. www.austinfastframe.com.*

GALLERY AT MUSEO: ABOUT FACE Works by Lisa Bussett, Nicole Jeffords, and Maria Lyle. *Through Jan. 11. 11266 Taylor Draper. www.museoofliving.com.*

GALLERY BLACK LAGOON: GROUP SHOW New works by David Lujan, Jeffrey Swanson, Dieter Geisler, Max Voss-Nester, Jamie Spinello, and Kristen Van Patten. *Through Jan. 15. 4301-A Guadalupe, 371-8838. www.galleryblacklagoon.com.*

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: DRAWN TOGETHER Allen Brewer's drawings mix text and images on used documents to create strange palimpsests; Pamela Valfer reorganizes taxidermy and the kitschiness of flocked animal banks into something altogether different. *Through Jan. 9. 608-C W. Monroe, 826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.*

HARRY RANSOM CENTER: THE LANGUAGE OF PHOTOGRAPHY The Gernsheim Collection's holdings on display here highlight photography's first 150 years, including work by Lewis Carroll, Alfred Stieglitz, Man Ray, and others. *300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.*

JCC GALLERY: ARTHUR ROTHSTEIN Historical images from the famous photographer of the 1920s and 1930s. *7300 Hart, 735-8000. www.shalomastuin.org.*

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY *411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.*

L. NOWLIN GALLERY: CHARLIE FERGUSON In “Wasted Expressions,” the photographer's painterly abstractions comprise parts of metal recycling centers, construction and demolition sites, and random street corners. *Through Jan. 8. 1202-A W. Sixth, 626-9301. www.lnowlingallery.com.*

LAUGHING CARDINAL GALLERY: RELIQUARY BOX An exhibition of works new, old, rediscovered, and reclaimed by Kelly Mae Newhouse. *2503-A E. Sixth. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: MIX ‘N’ MASH More than 200 local and regional artists present new works of art on 12-inch-by-12-inch panels. *Through Jan. 2. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

MITCHIE'S GALLERY presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. *7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.*

NEW EAST ARTS GALLERY Work from Black and Bluebird Studios, David Zvanut, Ed Watson, Erica Howard, Caminamos Juntos, and other finer local artists. *1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.*

QUALITY FRAMES AND ART: SURREALISM AND SKYSCAPES New work by Drew Mounce. *Through Dec. 27. 3663 Bee Caves Rd. #4. 328-3631.*

REVERSE GALLERY: WORKS OF SPRING Michael Bacon paints abstracts on the back of clear vinyl, and his works are viewed through the untouched side. *612 Brazos #100, 592-0219. www.michaelabacon.com.*

SCANLAN GALLERY: FLORA & FAUNA Thematic work by Melissa Miller, Linda Ridgway, Liz Ward, Nance Friesse, and Madeline Irvine. *2900 Bunny Run, 327-1213. www.sstx.org.*

STUDIO L: METAL ART STUDIO SHOW Behold the work of nationally known copper sculptor Daryl G. Colburn. Also, pieces in diverse metal media by Jacob Colburn, Erin Waters' photography, silver jewelry by Rita Marie Ross, and Sandy Muckleroy. *2309 Thornton, 577-3479. www.darylcolburn.com.*

STUDIO2GALLERY: LIBRARY FOLIAGE This show, in which a massive volume of creative talents have interpreted humans' love for and relationships with books. *Through Jan. 22. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 326-9102. www.studio2gallery.com.*

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK: AMERICAN DREAM Without ever revealing a face, photographer Lupita Murillo Tinnen creates powerful portraits of undocumented students. *Through Jan. 6. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

ANTOINETTE VAN HEUGTEN debuts her novel *Saving Max*, a story of autism. *Thu., Dec. 16, 7pm. **Borders at the Domain**, 3309 Esperanza Crossing, 339-1352.*

LESLIE WINFIELD WILLIAMS discusses her thriller *The Judas Conspiracy*. *Thu., Dec. 16, 11am. St. David's Bookstore, E. Eighth & San Jacinto, 477-9837.*

MAKE IT WET SPITFEST Hosted by Zell Miller III – it's his finale! Eight poets go head-to-head. Music by DJ Offtop. It's the best spot, wet or dry, on the planet tonight. Send Zell off covered in love! *Sat., Dec. 18, 8pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 903-8027. \$12. www.spitfest.com.*

WASSAIL This pagan/Christian poetry/music/magic gathering is also a benefit for Kids for Kids in Sudan. *Sun., Dec. 19, 5pm. Sri Atmananda, 4100 Red River, 451-7044. \$10.*

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

POETRY WORKSHOP hosted by Barbara Youngblood Carr and Herman Nelson. Bring 10 copies of a work in progress for friendly critiquing. *Thu., Dec. 16, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985. store-locator.barnesandnoble.com.*

THE WRITING CLUB FOR YOUTH This six-week creative writing program led by Spike Gillespie is for students in fifth through eighth grades at three Austin-area schools. Every student receives an anthology including works by each student. The 2011 Writing Club starts in January. *O. Henry Museum, 409 E. Fifth, 472-1903. www.cityofaustin.org/ohenry/programs.htm.*

OPEN MICS

CAFE CAFFEINE *Wednesdays, 6-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.cafecaffeine.com.*

FAIR BEAN *Fridays, 5-7pm. Fair Bean Coffee, 2210-I S. First, 444-BEAN. www.fairbeancoffee.com.*

THE HIDEOUT features Sam Kardec and Jeff Lofton via France and New York channeling the jazz energy of Miles Davis. *Mondays, 6-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry). www.hideouttheatre.com.*

SPOKEN & HEARD ASL interpreter available. *Sundays, 7-10pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425. www.kickbuttcffee.com.*

RUTA MAYA POETRY *Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.*

CALL FOR ENTRIES

ARDENT! POETRY IN THE ARTS Editor Dillon McKinsey seeks your poetry submissions. E-mail for details. rimerr777@gmail.com.

AIPF DI-VERSE YOUTH 2011 Austin International Poetry Festival's youth anthology. *Deadline Feb. 1. www.aipf.org.*

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *blue clarity the road rides the boy west past russet autumn grass, tall leaning soft weeds then the old laughter of sex, a marriage of rust & these closed eyes wetted with ropes of liquid light. (beauty is nothing without sorrow.) & who wants you & those who want & say they want because not saying you want is not the same as not wanting & there are few who say yes. (what gift wisdom without silence?) wait long enough to gather a fist full of stalks a bouquet of grain & shake, a red shift paradox of what burns to know a far so close (& nothing is not a want). Namaste. Want not.*

HOLIDAY BOOK DRIVE The Women's Storybook Project collects donations of new books so an incarcerated mother can connect with her child through literature. *Through Dec. 25. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985. www.storybookproject.org.*

CAFE CON LETRAS is a Spanish-language forum of music, poetry, drama, short films, art, and more, led by the Latin American Cultural Alliance. Everyone is invited to get involved, but it's not an open mic. To be considered as a guest artist, contact the Latin American Cultural Alliance. Every third Sunday of each month. *Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$5 (free, ages 15 and younger). www.alianzacultural.net.*

POEM OF THE ISSUE

There is nothing I know better

than the silence of words.

There is nothing I know better

than the buzz amidst the herds

of people who don't twinkle

in their eye, but merely watch me

as if I'd never seen them

in the first place.

– Michael Aaron Casares, “Buzz”
from *This Reality of Man*

Looking for more Book Groups or Open Mics?
See those sections in the Litera Listings
at austinchronicle.com/litera.

For Visual Arts Spaces, check out
austinchronicle.com/visualarts.

film listings



D: David O. Russell; with Mark Wahlberg, Christian Bale, Melissa Leo, Amy Adams, Jack McGee, Mickey O'Keefe. (R, 115 min.)

Virtually flawless performances and directorial execution render *The Fighter* one of the most thrilling movies of 2010. Yes, *The Fighter* offers a new riff on the old standby genre of the boxing film,

but to regard the movie solely in those terms vastly diminishes its import. Reminding us at once of the soulfulness of *Rocky* and the visual finesse of *Raging Bull*, *The Fighter* runs laps around those touchstones to create a movie that's really a drama about self-delusions, inner strength, and the family as a paradoxical source of conflict and sustenance. And, in a way, it's also a story about Lowell, Mass., a mill town that was once a beacon of American industry and then left to decay among the detritus of our post-Industrial Age. Boxer Dicky Eklund (Bale) was once known as the "Pride of Lowell" and now he's training his younger half brother Micky Ward (Wahlberg) to be a champion. The movie is based on incidents from the true-life story of Ward, who went on to have a storied career. However, *The Fighter* doesn't cover the triumphant part of Ward's life. Instead, it examines Ward's early years, the period during the late Eighties and early Nineties when he lost several fights, retired for the first time, romanced Charlene Fleming (Adams), and began his comeback. Central to his story are the people in his life, the people who both impede and promote his success. Chief among them is Dicky, his crackhead brother and trainer. Bale's performance is a thing of brilliance, capturing the physical contradictions of the character's residual athleticism and corrosive addiction. Watch the scene in which Dicky runs through the streets of Lowell, hours late for a sparring appointment and sprinting forward with a loose-limbed but focused posture, or when he jumps from the back window of his crackhouse onto a



giant pile of trash and comes up smelling like a rose in a pathetic move that would send others to the hospital. (Bale is so good in this role that I almost forgot he was in this film, and thought for a while that I was watching Daniel Day-Lewis.) Bale's extraordinary efforts are equaled by Leo as Alice, the mother of Micky and Dicky, as well as seven other daughters, who form a sometimes-frightening, sometimes-comical Greek chorus of harpies. Alice, who manages Micky's career, wears virtual blinders when it comes to the realities of her children's lives, but her offspring nevertheless have

no greater champion. And Adams, after a few turns playing princesses and the like, returns to the kind of role she does best: a loyal, working-class woman with a surfeit of inner confidence. Wahlberg, as the central character, remains understated throughout, smartly anchoring all the chaos around him. Russell keeps the movie grounded in the characters and their fascinating interplay, while the exacting camerawork (by Hoyte Van Hoytema) moves hungrily through each scene, ever watchful for the telling moment. Russell's characters are neither good nor bad, they are simply human beings imbued with virtues and faults. It is this intelligence, conveyed through the choices made by the actors and director, that makes *The Fighter* a great and enduring human drama. — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

new reviews

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER

D: Michael Apted; with Ben Barnes, Skandar Keynes, Georgie Henley, Will Poulter, Tilda Swinton; with the voices of Liam Neeson, Simon Pegg. (PG, 112 min.)

It takes great skill to make something so ponderously stultifying as this third film entry in the ongoing adaptation of C.S. Lewis' series of splendidly imagined children's books. Lewis was, of course, a passionate and committed Christian, and each of the three films (the first two from Disney, this one from Fox) has been released amid a flurry of criticism from Christian and secular audiences alike. This has occurred again (check out NarniaFaith.com for a fascinating cultural train wreck of a movie tie-in). However, what's really lost in translation is Lewis' effortlessly adventurous sense of wonder. *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* has all the elements of a rip-roaring Saturday-afternoon matinee (including 3-D, natch) and the intended Christian allegory, yet a more appropriate rechristening would be *The Voyage of the Yawn Treader*. Really, in a fantastical universe populated by a leonine Christ figure (Aslan, voiced by Neeson), a chatty seagoing mouse (Reepicheep, voiced by Pegg), and a vessel that appears to have been ripped straight from one of Ray Harryhausen's old *Sinbad* epics, you'd expect some sort of gravitas or, at the very least, some memorable derring-do. However, this film by upcoming director Apted is heavy on gamer motivations (seven swords must be located and collected, various personal obstacles must be overcome), but murky in emotional heft and drowned in poorly realized 3-D. Lucy (Henley) and Edmund Pevensie (Keynes) are still riding out the Blitz (will it never end?), although they're now accompanied by their irritable and irritating cousin Eustace Scrubb (Poulter, far more entertaining in *Son of Rambow*). All three are drawn into a magical painting in their bedroom, reuniting them with Barnes' Caspian (now king), Aslan, and, eventually, Swinton's still awe-inspiring White Witch. *Dawn Treader* is bereft of the narrative complexity evidenced in the preceding two films (although neither one was all that complex to begin with), and despite some fine creature-effects from KNB and a rousing score courtesy of David Arnold, it still feels as if this franchise has run aground and is sinking under the weight of its own ambitions. Spiritually speaking, you'll probably fare just as well renting *Jason and the Argonauts* on Saturday and hitting church on Sunday. You'll certainly have more fun. — Marc Savlov

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

HOW DO YOU KNOW

D: James L. Brooks; with Reese Witherspoon, Paul Rudd, Owen Wilson, Jack Nicholson, Kathryn Hahn, Mark Linn-Baker, Lenny Venito. (PG-13, 120 min.)

How do you know when you're in love? It's been a while for me, but I remember having a powerful urge to upchuck. In the same vein, professional softball player Lisa (Witherspoon) wears a pinched, pained expression whenever she contemplates the idea of loving George (Rudd), an unfailingly decent businessman of some vaguely defined sort, who is currently under federal investigation. It's hard, as a viewer, not to shudder in tandem with Lisa — this isn't a love match, it's two would-be motivational coaches swapping slogans. But wait! There's another bachelor behind Door No. 2: Matty (Wilson), a Nationals ballplayer and consummate baller whose nervous negotiations with monogamy mark some of the funnier moments in this disappointingly slack comedy from writer/director Brooks. *How Do You Know* isn't a bomb by any means, but it is bewildering how something so downy and limp could come from a sharpshooter like Brooks (*Broadcast News*, *As Good as It Gets*). Lisa and George are both in crisis — she's a world-class athlete aging out of her profession, he's looking at serious jail time for a crime he didn't commit — but there's no urgency to their situations, no conflict to the conflict. (Despite mining it as a significant subplot, Brooks doesn't even bother articulating the basics of George's professional problems, or even what exactly it is he does for a living.) The pacing, too, is all off, with jokes that hit in the preview trailer growing baggy from protraction. Brooks never supplies a definitive answer to the open-ended title — there are pretty speeches, sure, especially from a wet-eyed Rudd — but I think most everybody would agree you just know when it's right. And in the case of *How Do You Know*, when it's not. — Kimberley Jones

★★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

I LOVE YOU PHILLIP MORRIS

D: Glenn Ficarra, John Requa; with Jim Carrey, Ewan McGregor, Leslie Mann, Rodrigo Santoro, Antoni Corone, Brennan Brown. (R, 100 min.)

Loosely based on the outrageous life and incarcerated times of Texan con artist Steven Jay Russell, *I Love You Phillip Morris* is every bit as strange as its subject matter. It's something of a comeback vehicle for Carrey, although the film struggles to find a tone somewhere between outright farce and redemptive gay love story played straight. If that sounds confusing, it is, and *I Love You Phillip Morris* does itself no favors by attempting to be all things to all Carrey fans. As it is, Russell's convoluted life is puzzling enough; adding less-than-nuanced layers of Carrey's incessant mugging to the character only complicates matters. Carrey plays Russell as a borderline sociopath and liar who has an ever-ready, aw-shucks grin and the scruples of a born predator. Introducing us to his world via unnecessary voiceover narration, Russell begins the film as a Houston cop, who

is married and has children and a seriously intense religious life. After a quick change of profession, Russell becomes involved in a subplot about tracking down his birth mother, but that goes nowhere fast. Next comes some early, testing-the-waters insurance fraud. Then Russell's life changes – or, rather, is revealed to be a sham – after he's T-boned in an automobile accident while on the way home from an extramarital one-nighter with a gay hookup. Declaring his newly acquired lust for the good, gay life to the attending EMTs and then breaking the news to his wife (Mann, fine and bubbly), Russell decamps to South Beach, where he discovers, as that irksome narration reveals, “being gay is expensive.” Russell's far, far-beyond-his-means lifestyle quickly attracts the unwanted attention of both the local and Texas authorities, and voilà, he's Huntsville-bound. There he meets the titular Phillip Morris (McGregor, oddly cast), a shy, unassumingly gay boy-toy who instantly falls for this charming man. The pair's eventual release, further fascinating fraudulent activities, and silly hijinks ensue. What is this film about, and what does it want to be? Damned if I know. It's far too broadly comic to be taken as a serious study of the inner workings of a professional con man, and it never quite takes itself seriously enough to be anything more than another over-the-top Jim Carrey performance. It's confused and confusing, by turns hilarious and off-putting. In short, it's awfully hard to love *I Love You Phillip Morris*. – Marc Savlov

★➤ Arbor

LITTLE FOCKERS D: Paul Weitz; with Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Jessica Alba, Dustin Hoffman, Barbra Streisand, Teri Polo, Blythe Danner, Laura Dern, Harvey Keitel. (PG-13, 98 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Will Greg Focker (Stiller) finally be proclaimed the new family patriarch by his dyspeptic father-in-law (De Niro)? It's the third film outing for the Focker clan, and it remains to be seen if the jokes have yet worn thin. (Opens Wednesday.) – Marjorie Baumgarten

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE TOURIST D: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck; with Johnny Depp, Angelina Jolie, Paul Bettany, Timothy Dalton, Steven Berkoff, Rufus Sewell. (PG-13, 103 min.)

Interpol wants to catch a thief, namely Alexander Pearce, who has stolen more than \$2 billion. For some reason, despite all their technical gadgetry, these top cops have no idea what their suspect looks like, so in order to pick up his scent, they spend two years earnestly watching his girlfriend, Elise (Jolie). Their efforts pay off once she receives a note delivered by courier instructing her to catch the next train to Venice and pick a man of Alexander's general height and build to serve as an unwitting decoy. And that stranger on a train? He turns out to be none other than Johnny Depp in the role of Frank Tupelo, a widowed math teacher from Wisconsin. This film (which was adapted from the little-seen French thriller *Anthony Zimmer* and written by Christopher McQuarrie,

Julian Fellowes, and von Donnersmarck, whose film *The Secret Lives of Others* earned a Best Foreign Film Oscar) obviously strives for a Hitchcockian vibe of romance and suspense. True, many twists and turns occur. Nevertheless, *The Tourist* doesn't generate much suspense or intrigue. Von Donnersmarck's direction is dull and flat. Opportunities for using the camera as an instrument to create suspense are squandered continually, which allows viewers to dwell on the practical absurdities of the plot twists, further frittering away any sense of narrative tension. A motorboat rescue and chase sequence in the dark nighttime canals of Venice is especially frustrating, as it constitutes one of the slowest, most underlighted, and uninvolved action sequences ever put to film. Certainly Jolie and Depp are equally matched in star wattage, but they prove an inert love match onscreen. No Cary Grant/Grace Kelly magic here: The pair conveys squat as far as onscreen chemistry goes. As Frank, Depp goes from befuddled mark to daring participant while delivering one of the most lackluster performances of his career. For her part, Jolie is never required to do much more than strut her luscious stuff and show us why a thief might risk \$2 billion in order to have her back in his life. Without sizzle or thrills, *The Tourist* becomes as sluggish and rank as the Venice waterways. – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

openings & ratings

- The Fighter* (R)
- How Do You Know* (PG-13)
- I Love You Phillip Morris* (R)
- Little Fockers* (PG-13)
- Tron: Legacy* (PG)
- True Grit* (PG-13)
- Yogi Bear* (PG)

- ★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
- ★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
- ★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
- ★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
- ★ Poor, without any saving graces
- ☹ La bomba

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VULCAN VIDEO

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CHRISTIAN DE SICA CASTING BY SUSIE FIGGIS MUSIC BY JAMES NEWTON HOWARD COSTUME DESIGNER COLLEEN ATWOOD EDITORS JOE HUTSHING A.C.E. PATRICIA ROMMEL

PRODUCTION DESIGNER JON HUTMAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN SEALE, ASC, ACS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LLOYD PHILLIPS BAHMAN NARAGHI OLIVIER COURSON RON HALPERN

PRODUCED BY GRAHAM KING TIM HEADINGTON ROGER BIRNBAUM GARY BARBER JONATHAN GLICKMAN

SCREENPLAY BY FLORIAN HENCKEL VON DONNERSMARCK AND CHRISTOPHER MCQUARRIE AND JULIAN FELLOWES DIRECTED BY FLORIAN HENCKEL VON DONNERSMARCK

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CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES



austinchronicle.com **DECEMBER 17, 2010** THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE **71**

showtimes

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.
Black Swan: Fri, 4:00, 7:30, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; Mon, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Tue, 4:00, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35; Wed-Thu (12/23), 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
Action Pack: Christmas Pops Sing-Along: Sun, 7:00pm; Thu (12/23), 9:45pm
Master Pancake: Christmas Show: Fri-Sat, 7:00, 10:00
Action Pack: Elf: Quite A Lovely Elf: Thu (12/23), 7:00pm
Zzzang! Get Crazy: Sun, 3:00pm; Fri, 7:00pm
High for the Holidays: Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle With All-You-Can-Eat Miniburgers: Mon, 7:40pm
Music Monday: Head: Mon, 10:15pm
Girlie Night: Love Actually: Tue, 7:00pm
Weird Wednesday: The Magic Christmas Tree: Wed, 12:30am
Nothing Lasts Forever: Wed, 7:00pm
Terror Tuesday: Silent Night, Deadly Night: Tue, 10:00pm
High for the Holidays: The Holy Mountain: Wed, 9:45pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK
13729 Research, 219-5408.
Master Pancake: Christmas Show: Tue, 7:00pm
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri, 1:25, 4:15, 7:10, 9:35; Sat, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:25, 8:15pm; Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:10, 8:10pm; Mon, 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30; Tue, 1:25, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30; Wed, 12:15, 7:05, 9:50; Thu (12/23), 12:15, 9:25
Action Pack: Elf: Quite-Along: Sun, 7:00pm; Thu (12/23), 7:00pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri, 12:15, 3:30, 7:25, 10:35; Sat, 4:50, 8:05; Sun, 11:15am, 2:30, 6:00, 9:10pm; Mon, 12:00, 3:30, 7:25, 10:30; Tue, 12:00, 3:30, 7:25
Family Fun: Home Alone: Sat, 10:45am; Sun, 10:30am; Wed-Thu (12/23), 10:45am
Horror Remix: You'd Better Watch Out! Thu (12/23), 10:00pm
***Little Fockers:** Wed-Thu (12/23), 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10pm
Saturday Morning Cartoon Cereal Party: Holiday Edition: Sat, 11:00am
***Tangled (3-D):** Fri, 11:00am, 2:00, 6:40pm; Sat, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 10:00; Sun, 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 9:45; Mon, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:05, 6:25pm; Tue, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:05pm
***The Tourist: Fri:** 11:25am, 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45pm; Sat, 11:30am, 2:10, 7:10, 9:55; Sun, 11:55am, 1:25, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55pm; Mon, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30; Tue, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30; Wed, 11:05am, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40pm; Thu (12/23), 11:05am, 1:35, 4:15, 7:10, 9:45pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 11:10am, 12:00, 3:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:35, 9:25, 10:05, 10:45pm; Sat, 11:05am, 12:00, 2:00, 3:25, 5:00, 6:20, 8:00, 9:15, 10:55pm; Sun, 11:00am, 12:30, 2:00, 3:30, 5:00, 8:00, 9:40pm; Mon, 11:10am, 12:00, 3:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:35, 9:20, 10:10, 10:35pm; Tue, 11:10am, 12:00, 3:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:35, 10:05pm; Wed-Thu (12/23), 12:00, 3:30, 7:25, 10:20
***True Grit: Fri:** 11:55pm; Wed-Thu (12/23), 11:00am, 12:30, 1:55, 3:30, 4:40, 6:30, 7:40, 9:20, 10:30pm
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:10, 6:55, 9:10pm; Sat, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:05pm; Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 8:35pm; Mon, 12:30, 2:00, 3:15, 6:55, 8:50; Tue, 12:30, 2:00, 3:15, 6:55, 9:25; Wed, 1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:30; Thu (12/23), 1:20, 4:05, 6:50

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 12:15, 6:40, 9:30; Sun, 12:50, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30; Mon, 12:35, 3:30, 6:40, 9:30; Tue, 2:20, 5:30, 8:30; Wed-Thu (12/23), 12:35, 3:35, 6:40, 9:30
Kids' Club: Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas: Sat, 11:00am
Four Lions: Fri, 4:55, 7:30; Sat, 7:20pm; Sun, 4:45, 7:25; Mon, 4:45, 7:30; Tue, 11:25am, 4:45, 7:30pm; Wed-Thu (12/23), 9:45pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri, 4:00, 7:20, 10:25; Sat, 3:15, 7:20, 10:25; Sun, 7:20, 10:25; Mon-Tue, 12:25, 7:20, 10:25
Little Fockers: Thu (12/23), 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm
127 Hours: Fri, 2:30, 7:00, 9:35; Sat, 12:50, 6:55, 9:30; Sun, 11:05am, 2:20, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35pm; Mon, 11:05am, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35pm; Tue, 11:05am, 2:15, 4:30, 9:55pm; Wed-Thu (12/23), 10:50am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:15pm
Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale: Fri, 12:00, 10:10; Sat, 10:10pm; Sun, 1:45, 10:10; Mon-Tue, 11:45am, 10:10pm
AFS: The Seagull's Laughter: Tue, 7:00pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 11:00am, 12:05, 1:50, 3:45, 4:40, 7:05, 7:40, 10:00, 10:30pm; Sat, 11:00am, 12:15, 1:25, 1:50, 4:15, 4:40, 7:05, 7:40, 10:00, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:35am, 11:00, 1:25, 1:35, 1:50, 4:10, 4:15, 4:40, 7:05, 7:40, 10:00, 10:30pm; Mon, 10:35am, 11:00, 1:25, 1:35, 1:50, 3:55, 4:05, 4:40, 7:00, 7:40, 10:00, 10:30pm
Wed-Thu (12/23): 11:10am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55pm
True Grit: Fri, 11:55pm; Wed-Thu (12/23), 10:45am, 11:15, 1:30, 2:05, 4:15, 4:50, 7:05, 7:45, 10:00, 10:30pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090. Tuesday matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. Call theatre for Dec. 22-23 showtimes.
Master Pancake: Christmas Show: Sun, 7:00pm
The Fighter: Fri, 12:40, 1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10; Sat, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 10:20pm; Sun, 11:25am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40pm; Mon, 1:30, 4:55, 7:15, 10:15; Tue, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15
TV at the Alamo: Glee: Tue, 9:45pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri, 11:00am, 3:35, 10:05pm; Sat, 12:50, 8:35; Sun, 12:15, 3:40, 10:15; Mon, 1:40, 4:15, 10:10; Tue, 1:25, 4:35
TV at the Alamo: NBC Thursdays: Thu (12/23), 10:00pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Total Badass: Sun, 10:00pm
The Tourist: Fri: 11:05am, 3:10, 9:45pm; Sat, 11:00am, 4:00, 6:40, 9:20pm; Sun, 11:00am, 2:00, 7:15pm; Mon, 2:10, 4:40, 7:45, 10:25pm; Tue, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 10:30pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 11:50am, 2:55, 7:00, 9:50, 11:55pm; Sat, 11:45am, 1:25, 2:45, 4:15, 5:40, 7:00, 10:00, 11:55pm; Sun, 11:15am, 1:25, 4:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon, 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50; Tue, 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm and all day Wednesdays.
Black Swan: 11:50am, 12:30, 2:30, 3:30, 5:10, 7:00, 7:50, 9:55, 10:30pm
Fair Game: 3:50, 10:10
The Fighter: 12:20, 12:50, 3:10, 4:00, 6:50, 7:20, 9:45, 10:15
The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest: 12:10, 3:20, 6:40, 9:50
I Love You Phillip Morris: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00pm
127 Hours: 12:00, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05
The Social Network: 12:40, 7:10

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE austinchronicle.com/film.

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN. Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays. Call theatre for Dec. 22-23 showtimes.
Black Swan: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30pm
Burlesque: Fri-Tue, 1:50pm
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D): Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55pm; Sun, 12:30, 3:15, 4:25, 6:00, 7:10, 8:40, 9:55; 3:50; Tue, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55pm
The Fighter: Fri-Sat, 11:50am, 2:40, 5:35, 8:20, 11:00pm; Sun-Tue, 11:50am, 2:40, 5:35, 8:15, 10:55pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri-Sat, 11:35am, 3:00, 6:30, 9:40pm; Sun, 3:00, 6:30, 9:40; Mon-Tue, 11:35am, 3:00, 6:30, 9:40pm
How Do You Know: Fri-Tue, 10:25am, 1:20, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15pm
Love & Other Drugs: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 2:55, 5:45, 8:25, 11:00pm; Sun-Tue, 10:00am, 2:55, 5:45, 8:20, 10:55pm
***Megamind (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 12:35pm
127 Hours: Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 1:15, 3:35, 6:10, 8:30, 10:50pm; Sun-Mon, 1:15, 3:35, 6:10, 8:30, 10:45; Tue, 10:55am, 1:15, 3:35, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45pm
***Tangled (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 9:30am, 11:55, 2:30, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05pm
The Tourist: Fri-Sat: 9:40am, 11:15, 12:15, 2:50, 4:30, 5:25, 7:00, 8:10, 9:35, 10:45pm; Sun, 9:40am, 12:15, 2:50, 4:30, 5:25, 7:00, 8:10, 9:35, 10:40pm; Mon-Tue, 9:40am, 11:15, 12:15, 2:50, 4:30, 5:25, 7:00, 8:10, 9:35, 10:40pm
Tron: Legacy: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:55pm; Sun-Tue, 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:50pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 9:45am, 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45pm
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 10:40am, 1:00, 3:10, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00pm

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO. Call theatre for Dec. 22-23 showtimes.
***Black Swan:** Fri, 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sat-Tue, 9:50am, 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30pm
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri, 12:10, 3:20, 6:20, 9:00; Sat-Tue, 9:30am, 12:10, 3:20, 6:20, 9:00pm
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri, 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Tue, 10:50am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:15pm
***The Fighter:** Fri, 1:00, 10:55pm, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Tue, 10:10am, 1:00, 3:30, 7:00, 9:50pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri, 2:30, 6:30, 9:40; Sat-Tue, 11:10am, 2:30, 6:30, 9:40pm
***How Do You Know:** Fri, 1:10, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Sat-Tue, 10:20am, 1:10, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05pm
Megamind: Fri, 2:10, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Tue, 11:50am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30pm
Tangled: Fri, 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10; Sat-Tue, 9:40am, 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10pm
***The Tourist:** Fri, 1:20, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10; Sat-Tue, 10:40am, 1:20, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00; Sat-Tue, 9:30am, 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00pm
Unstoppable: Fri-Tue, 7:30, 9:55
***Yogi Bear:** Fri, 12:40, 2:50, 5:00; Sat-Tue, 10:30am, 12:40, 2:50, 5:00pm
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri, 1:40, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:20; Sat-Tue, 9:20am, 11:30, 1:40, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:20pm

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14
12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO. Call theatre for Dec. 22-23 showtimes.
***Black Swan:** Fri-Tue, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm
Burlesque: Fri-Tue, 12:40, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10; Sun, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10; Mon-Tue, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 2:45, 5:35, 8:40pm
***The Fighter:** Fri-Tue, 12:15, 3:20, 6:30, 9:30
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri-Tue, 11:15am, 2:50, 6:15, 9:50pm
***How Do You Know:** Fri-Tue, 12:55, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
Tangled: Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30pm
***The Tourist:** Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm
***Tron: Legacy:** Fri-Tue, 12:30, 3:35, 6:40, 9:45
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 11:00am, 2:05, 5:10, 8:15pm
Unstoppable: Fri-Tue, 11:10am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:25, 9:55pm
***Yogi Bear:** Fri-Tue, 12:45, 3:10, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 11:35am, 2:40, 5:30, 6:55, 9:20pm

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK
2120 N. Mays, Round Rock, 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm. Call theatre for Dec. 22-23 showtimes.
Alpha and Omega: Fri, 2:30, 4:45; Sat-Tue, 12:00, 2:30, 4:45
Despicable Me: Fri, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:05; Sat-Tue, 11:45am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:05pm
Easy A: Fri-Tue, 7:30, 10:10
Hereafter: Fri, 3:30, 6:15, 9:15, 12:20, 3:30, 6:15, 9:15
Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole: Fri, 3:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Tue, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50pm
Paranormal Activity 2: Fri, 2:45, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15; Sat-Tue, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 8:00, 10:15
Red: Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Tue, 11:10am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm
Takers: Fri, 6:45, 9:40; Sat-Tue, 4:00, 6:45, 9:40
The Town: Fri-Tue, 8:15pm
Toy Story 3: Fri, 4:00pm; Sat-Tue, 12:45pm
You Again: Fri, 2:00, 5:10; Sat-Tue, 11:30am, 2:00, 5:10pm

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, Round Rock, 800/FANDANGO. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium. Call theatre for Dec. 22-23 showtimes.
***Black Swan:** Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35pm
Burlesque: Fri-Tue, 6:10, 9:00
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 10:00am, 12:50, 3:50, 6:40, 9:10pm
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:25pm
***The Fighter:** Fri-Tue, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri-Tue, 11:00am, 2:20, 6:00, 9:20pm
***How Do You Know:** Fri-Tue, 9:55am, 1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10pm
Megamind: Fri-Tue, 9:50am, 12:20, 3:20pm
Tangled: Fri-Tue, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30pm
***The Tourist:** Fri-Tue, 10:20am, 1:10, 4:30, 7:00, 10:00pm
***Tron: Legacy:** Fri-Tue, 9:40am, 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 10:50am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40pm
Unstoppable: Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 2:00, 5:20, 8:05, 10:30pm
***Yogi Bear:** Fri-Tue, 10:10am, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:20, 9:50pm
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 11:10am, 1:30, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40pm

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS
9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a \$3.50 premium. Call theatre for Dec. 22-23 showtimes.
***Black Swan:** Fri, 1:00, 3:35, 6:10, 8:45; Sat-Tue, 10:15am, 1:00, 3:35, 6:10, 8:45pm
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader:** Fri, 1:25, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35; Sat-Tue, 10:30am, 1:25, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35pm
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri, 2:45, 5:35, 8:10; Sat-Tue, 11:50am, 2:45, 5:35, 8:10pm
***The Fighter:** Fri, 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Tue, 10:35am, 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri, 2:05, 5:20, 8:30; Sat-Tue, 10:50am, 2:05, 5:20, 8:30pm
***How Do You Know:** Fri, 12:55, 3:45, 6:35, 9:30; Sat-Tue, 10:50am, 12:55, 3:45, 6:35, 9:30pm
Megamind: Fri, 1:15, 3:40, 6:15, 8:40; Sat-Tue, 10:25am, 1:15, 3:40, 6:15, 8:40pm
Tangled: Fri, 12:45, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10; Sat-Tue, 10:10am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10pm
***The Tourist:** Fri, 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:25; Sat-Tue, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:25pm
***Tron: Legacy:** Fri, 12:50, 3:50, 6:55, 9:45; Sat-Tue, 10:00am, 12:50, 3:50, 6:55, 9:45pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 2:15, 5:25, 8:20; Sat-Tue, 11:25am, 2:15, 5:25, 8:20pm
Unstoppable: Fri-Tue, 12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
***Yogi Bear:** Fri, 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 7:50, 10:05; Sat-Tue, 10:20am, 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 7:50, 10:05pm
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri, 1:50, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00; Sat-Tue, 11:30am, 1:50, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00pm

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER 600 River, 974-3772.
Cine las Americas: Nazarin: Mon, 8:00pm

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday or Saturday after 7pm without an adult.
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 10:00, 12:00, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30, 11:50; Sun-Thu (12/23), 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30
The Fighter: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 12:00, 2:15, 2:30, 4:45, 5:00, 7:15, 7:30, 9:45, 10:00pm, 12mid; Sun-Thu (12/23), 11:00am, 12:00, 2:15, 2:30, 4:45, 5:00, 7:15, 7:30, 9:45, 10:00pm, 12mid; Sun-Thu (12/23), 11:00am, 12:00, 2:15, 2:30, 4:45, 5:00, 7:15, 7:30, 9:45, 10:00pm
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: 10:00am, 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15pm
How Do You Know: Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30pm, 12mid; Sun-Thu (12/23), 10:15am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30pm
***Tangled (3-D):** 10:00am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:20pm
The Tourist: Fri-Sat, 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00, 11:45; Sun-Thu (12/23), 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, Sat, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:00, 4:20, 4:40, 7:05, 7:20, 9:50, 10:10am; Sun-Thu (12/23), 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:00, 4:20, 4:40, 7:05, 7:20, 9:50, 10:00pm
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:20, 9:20, 11:30pm; Sun-Thu (12/23), 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:20, 9:20pm

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***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader:** Fri, 4:20, 9:35; Sat, 1:40, 7:00; Sun, 4:20, 7:00; Mon, 4:20, 9:35; Tue, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10pm
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (open captioned and descriptive audio):** Fri, 1:40, 7:00; Sat, 4:20, 9:35; Sun, 1:40, 9:35; Mon, 1:40, 9:35
Due Date: Fri-Tue, 12:50, 3:05, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri-Tue, 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 10:15
How Do You Know: Fri-Tue, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25pm
Megamind: Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 2:05, 4:25, 6:55, 9:20pm
Morning Glory: Fri-Tue, 11:55am, 2:25, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05pm
Tangled: Fri-Mon, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55pm; Tue, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:35, 6:50, 9:10pm
***The Tourist (open captioned and descriptive audio):** Fri, 1:50, 9:50
***The Tourist:** Fri-Tue, 11:25am, 12:00, 1:50, 2:35, 4:15, 5:10, 7:15, 7:45, 9:50, 10:20pm; Tue, 11:25am, 12:00, 2:35, 4:15, 5:10, 7:15, 7:45, 10:20pm
***Tron: Legacy:** Fri-Tue, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri-Tue, 11:10am,

CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, IMAX Theatre, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

TRUE GRIT D: Joel Coen, Ethan Coen; with Jeff Bridges, Hailee Steinfeld, Matt Damon, Josh Brolin, Barry Pepper. (PG-13, 110 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The ever-idiosyncratic Coen brothers tackle the film Western head-on in this remake of the 1969 classic that earned John Wayne an Academy Award. (Opens Wednesday.)

— Marjorie Baumgarten

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Tinseltown South, Westgate

YOGI BEAR D: Eric Brevig; with Anna Faris, Tom Cavanagh, T.J. Miller, Andrew Daly, Nathan Corrdry; with the voices of Dan Aykroyd, Justin Timberlake. (PG, 80 min.)

Yogi Bear is unbearable. There, I said it. Maybe I react this way because of seeing one too many movies this year that mix human live-action with animated animal shenanigans. (Blame the success of *Alvin and the Chipmunks* for all the studios trying to launch their own furry franchises.) Maybe I'm out of touch, but I don't recall hearing a hue and cry for a revival of Hanna-Barbera's ursine star Yogi Bear and his sidekick, Boo Boo. Nevertheless, the stars of *The Yogi Bear Show*, which ran on TV in the early Sixties, have clawed their way onto the silver screen. All but the very youngest viewers will prefer that they had remained in hibernation. Yogi (voiced by Aykroyd in a good approximation of the original, which was voiced by Daws Butler) still lives in Jellystone Park and still proclaims himself "smarter than the average bear." Aided by Boo Boo (voiced by Timberlake), he devises elaborate plots to separate park visitors from their "pic-i-nic" baskets and continues to have the same spotty success. The talking bear makes life difficult for Ranger Smith (Cavanagh) but is one of the lures that brings documentary filmmaker Rachel (Faris) to the park to shoot a film. When the corrupt local mayor (Daly) decides to sell Jellystone's logging rights, the bears and humans join forces to obstruct the sale. (Never mind that mayors have no jurisdiction over national parkland — this is a movie that stars talking bears.) Appearancewise, the live action and animation walk fine lines that never quite blend into a believable composite. Brevig, a special-effects wiz who made his directing debut in 2008 with the 3-D *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, primarily exploits the 3-D in *Yogi Bear* for primitive projectile effects hurled in the audience's direction. Even the usually reliable Faris is unable to lend any spark to the proceedings. Only the youngest, most undiscerning viewers will want to decamp to Jellystone.

— Marjorie Baumgarten

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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BAND BAAJA BAARAAT D: Maneesh Sharma; with Anushka Sharma, Ranveer Singh. (NR, 140 min., subtitled)

The co-owners of a wedding-planning service become the couple most observed in this Bollywood romantic comedy. (12/10/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

BLACK SWAN D: Darren Aronofsky; with Natalie Portman, Mila Kunis, Vincent Cassel, Barbara Hershey, Winona Ryder, Benjamin Millepied. (R, 108 min.)

Set within a New York ballet company, this drama-horror hybrid is potent stuff. In an opening dream sequence, an overlooked ballerina named Nina Sayers (Portman) imagines herself dancing the lead in *Swan Lake*. The dream, it turns out, is prophetic: Nina is tapped by the troupe's manipulative director (Cassel) to play the Swan Queen – both the sweet, virginal White Swan and her evil twin, the provocative Black Swan. Nina is a tentative young woman who still lives with her overbearing mother (Hershey). Already crumbling under the stresses of training and a twisted dream life, soon enough she's having scary visions of her body's metamorphosis into a swan. This is about flight from self. That simple fact is obscured by Aronofsky's expert use of horror-film technique, wherein even the squish of a cut grapefruit is amplified to queasy, supremely uneasy effect. But what startles most is how exquisitely controlled his command of so much madness truly is. (12/10/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ Alamo Ritz, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

BURLESQUE D: Steve Antin; with Cher, Christina Aguilera, Stanley Tucci, Cam Gigandet, Eric Dane, Julianne Hough, Kristen Bell, Peter Gallagher, Alan Cumming. (PG-13, 116 min.)

Burlesque bumps and grinds. And then it continues to grind and grind and grind. This new musical leaves no cliché untuned as it struggles to find the heart of cabaret. The girls at the Burlesque Lounge on the Sunset Strip dance onstage in exotic underwear while lip-synching risqué numbers, but no clothing is removed. Aguilera stars as Ali, the orphaned Iowa waitress who ditches her job, straps on her platform pumps, and heads for the glittering lights of Hollywood. The dialogue plods along predictably, and



The Shop Around the Corner

The Shop Around the Corner (1940) D: Ernst Lubitsch; with Margaret Sullivan, James Stewart, Frank Morgan. (NR, 97 min.) **Holiday Classic Films**. In this smart and stylish Lubitsch comedy (remade as *You've Got Mail*), most of the action takes place within the small shop where Stewart and Sullivan work side-by-side, never knowing they are secret romantic correspondents. (*) @Paramount, Saturday, 9pm; Sunday, 4:30pm.

The Seagull's Laughter

The Seagull's Laughter (2001) D: Ágúst Guðmundsson; with Margrét Vilhjálmsdóttir, Uglia Egilsdóttir, Eyvindur Erlendsson, Kristbjörg Kjeld, Heino Ferch. (NR, 105 min.) **Austin Film Society: Fire Beneath the Ice – Films of Iceland**. Set in 1950s Iceland, this film is equal parts noirish mystery and coming-of-age tale. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday, 7pm; \$8; AFS members free.

the performance numbers are edited like a cut-and-paste mosaic. Cher was a shrewd casting choice in terms of upping the film's camp cred, but the diva plays it straight as the club's proprietor and den mother, Tess. As *Burlesque* ground along its obvious and well-worn path, my inner voice indeed shouted, "Take it off," though my request was directed toward the projection booth rather than the dancers onstage. (12/03/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

DUE DATE D: Todd Phillips; with Robert Downey Jr., Zach Galifianakis, Michelle Monaghan, Jamie Foxx, Juliette Lewis, Danny McBride, RZA, Matt Walsh. (R, 95 min.)

Due Date is the comedy delivered by director Phillips in between his breakout success, last year's *The Hangover*, and its coming-soon-to-a-theatre-near-you sequel, which is already in production. Galifianakis, whose comic man-child schtick gets a full workout, plays Ethan Tremblay, gauche and rotund, against Downey Jr.'s Peter Highman, who is just trying to make it home to Los Angeles in time for the birth of his first child. Phillips steers this road-trip movie through a wicked variety of set-pieces and celebrity guest cameos. The problem with *Due Date* is that it is less funny at 95 minutes than it is in its succinct trailers. In between the jokes, the darker moments of *Due Date* emerge and deflate some of the froth. Nevertheless, in its best moments, the film's duo of Galifianakis and Downey Jr. remind us of a bickering Laurel & Hardy digging themselves out of another fine mess. And we're happy to be along for the ride. (11/05/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

FAIR GAME D: Doug Liman; with Naomi Watts, Sean Penn, Sam Shepard. (PG-13, 105 min.)

Were it not for the fact that Sean Penn and Naomi Watts turn in a pair of top-notch performances as columnist/politico Joseph Wilson and his wife, Valerie Plame, a covert CIA field operative, *Fair Game* would have all the gripping suspense of an Urdu 101 class at Langley. Think *The Spy Who Was Publicly Outed by Morally Bankrupt Partisan Ideologues*. That's what happened to Plame when conservative columnist Robert Novak, acting on a tip from Bush's White House, penned a column about her husband in *The Washington Post* on July 14, 2003. Cutting between Plame's doomed covert ops in Iraq and the war of words on the home front, Liman keeps things moving along at a frantic pace. Still, *Fair Game*, which both fascinates and infuriates, comes across as little more than a footnote in an ever-lengthening list of the Bush White House's sordid, potentially treasonous actions leading up to and beyond the invasion of Iraq. (11/05/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Arbor

FASTER D: George Tillman Jr.; with Dwayne Johnson, Tom Berenger, Billy Bob Thornton, Carla Gugino, Mike Epps. (R, 95 min.)

Faster goes a long way toward dispelling the memory of *Tooth Fairy*, but it also serves as a nagging reminder that Thornton hasn't worked much over the last few years. *Faster* turns out to be a better-than-average vendetta film with enough forward momentum to keep audiences glued (Elmer's, not Super) to their seats. Johnson plays Driver: fresh out of prison, sound of mind, and of single intent. He means to kill each and every one of the snitches who killed his brother and made off with the spoils of a past robbery. Carrying a list of names in his pocket and a really big revolver in his hand, he covers a lot of ground between California and Nevada while culling the scumbag herd in his cherry '65 Chevy



Chevelle. The former "Rock" plays it wicked straight throughout, as does everyone else involved, including Thornton, playing the junkie cop with a dark secret on Driver's tail. (11/26/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Metropolitan

FOUR LIONS D: Chris Morris; with Riz Ahmed, Arsher Ali, Nigel Lindsay, Kayvan Novak. (R, 102 min.)

Quite probably the world's first Islamic terrorist comedy, *Four Lions* is set in Sheffield, 150 miles north of London, and details the bumbling efforts of a group of radicalized Muslims who dream of becoming suicide bombers. Faisal (Akhtar) is soft-spoken and maybe soft in the head; Waj (Novak) is dim but eager to please; Barry (Lindsay), a white convert, is a bilious fanatic; and Hassan (Ali) is a wannabe rapper just looking for a community. But leader Omar (Ahmed) is a genuinely politicized and embittered young man with a wife and son. *Four Lions* is a riot of physical comedy, and much of the dialogue is sneakily hilarious in its sheer banality. Director Morris, in his first feature film, imperceptibly shifts from pure satire to accommodate a more complete and, yes, humanizing portrait of the conflicted jihadists. This is provocative stuff, to be sure. A comedy of errors and terrors? Who woulda thunk it? (11/05/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

THE GIRL WHO KICKED THE HORNET'S NEST D: Daniel Alfredson; with Noomi Rapace, Michael Nyqvist, Lena Endre, Anders Ahlborn, Georgi Staykov, Annika Hallin, Jacob Ericksson. (R, 147 min., subtitled)

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest is the concluding chapter of Stieg Larsson's phenomenal clutch of paranoid Svenska-noir novels and the Swedish films based on his work. The follow-up films don't quite live up to the visceral, chilly, black-leather Euro-punch of director Niels Arden Oplev's original film. But they all star Rapace, who so utterly embodies the character of Lisbeth Salander as a sort of forcibly detached, hideously scarred – mentally, physically, emotionally – force majeure that it's inconceivable, for now, that any actor would have the brass balls to place herself at the center of the forthcoming, inevitable Hollywood remakes. (David Fincher will direct.) If *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest* lacks a measure of the sexually turbo-charged torque of its precursors, the fault lies not with Rapace or Nyqvist, but with a concluding storyline that breathlessly attempts to weave all those loose ends from the previous films into a cunningly crafted hang-man's knot. (11/19/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Arbor

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART 1

D: David Yates; with Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Ralph Fiennes, Alan Rickman, Helena Bonham Carter, Julie Walters, Bill Nighy, Imelda Staunton, Tom Felton, Rhys Ifans, Jason Isaacs, Helen McCrory, Peter Mullan. (PG-13, 146 min.)

The first half of a two-film adaptation of J.K. Rowling's final book about the battle between the damaged boy-wizard Harry (Radcliffe) and the dark Lord Voldemort (Fiennes), *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1* is, as a whole, the finest Potter film yet. From the superlative digital effects and original score to the saga-scoped camerawork, *Deathly Hallows* is all business – taut, fraught, and fearsome. When Voldemort's minions, the Death Eaters, storm the Ministry, Harry and best friends Hermione (Watson) and Ron (Grint) go underground to find and destroy the remaining Horcruxes, talismans in which Voldemort safeguarded splinters of his soul. *Deathly Hallows* is still truthful to the spirit of these decent, sometimes goofy kid-characters, whom

we've watched grow up in the course of 10 years. They remain fundamentally the same, only now with jaws set hard from troubled times. They've been through something epic, and for the first time, truly, so have we. (11/19/2010) – Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

HEREAFTER D: Clint Eastwood; with Matt Damon, Cécile de France, Frankie McLaren, George McLaren, Jay Mohr, Bryce Dallas Howard, Thierry Neuvic, Derek Jacobi, Marthe Keller, Richard Kind. (PG-13, 129 min.)

With *Hereafter*, Eastwood shows that he still has the ability to confound our expectations of him. *Hereafter* finds him in full-on contemplative mode even though the film's assumption is that there is a life after death, one that is flooded with white light, imbues a feeling of all-knowing serenity, and is lined with minions of murky figures murmuring indecipherably to the newcomer. It turns out that the dead are a chatty bunch. Much of the blame for the film's muzzy thinking has to go to screenwriter Peter Morgan (*The Queen*, *Frost/Nixon*). The movie is structured by three separate but converging storylines, and though the mechanics of bringing the three characters together in the same city are a bit creaky, you still have to give *Hereafter* props for setting its climactic convergence at the London Book Fair, which is surely an original filming location. That and the incredible CGI tsunami in the opening sequence are the film's highlights. (10/22/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Movies 8

JACKASS 3D D: Jeff Tremaine. (R, 94 min.)

The cunning stuntwork of *Jackass*' motley band of jackanapes is marginally less shocking this time out, even when we're presented with scenes so bile-risible that the cameraman pukes on his own camera. Stomach contents and an outflow of redolent porta-potty effluvium rule the day, while testicles and taboos are smashed flat with equal abandon. *Jackass* is 10 years old this year but thankfully evinces no more maturity than when it first premiered on MTV. In between Johnny Knoxville getting rammed senseless by a buffalo and tooth extraction via Lamborghini (an inspired bit, in theory), there are moments of comic brilliance that, cleverly, *don't* make you want to hurl. *Jackass* continues to rock on like your older brother's crazy best friend with the creepy gleam in his hooded eyes, only now you can pull up YouTube and see that sort of thing 24/7, should you feel the uncontrollable urge. (10/22/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★ Tinseltown South



Nazarín

Nazarín (1959) D: Luis Buñuel; with Francisco Rabal, Marga López, Rita Macedo, Jesús Fernández. (NR, 94 min.) **Cine las Americas and the Consulate General of México in Austin: Luis Buñuel en México**. *Nazarín* is a pseudo religious parable about an ascetic priest whose Christlike existence often causes more problems than it solves. This Cannes prize-winner is classic Buñuel: pointing out the infidelity of religion while respecting its humble practitioners. @MACC, Monday, 8pm; free.

**LEGEND OF THE GUARDIANS:
THE OWLS OF GA'HOOLE** D: Zack Snyder;
with the voices of Helen Mirren, Geoffrey Rush, Jim Sturgess, Hugo
Weaving, Emily Barclay, Abbie Cornish. (PG, 91 min.)

Maybe prior familiarity with Kathryn Lasky's young
adult book series would help overall comprehension.
Starting with the impossible-to-remember title, this
film is better off dubbed "that owl movie." Snyder, the
director of action films with such streamlined titles
as *Watchmen* and *300*, assembles top British and
Australian actors for the vocal talent, but *Legend of the
Guardians* seems to be more about talons than talent.
The story takes place in a predatory world in which two
young owlets are carried off by the bigger Pure Ones
to do their bidding. The Pure Ones have some kind
of plan for avian world domination, while the owls of
Ga'Hoole fight back against evil. Lives are snuffed out
and sacrificed with regularity, and the film maintains an
extremely dark tone throughout. Adults thinking about
taking their little ones to this PG-rated film should
consider whether the kiddies are ready to witness the
harsh and vulturous world of *Legend of the Guardians*.
(10/01/2010)

★★ Movies 8

LOVE & OTHER DRUGS D: Edward Zwick;
with Jake Gyllenhaal, Anne Hathaway, Oliver Platt, Hank Azaria,
Josh Gad, Gabriel Macht, Judy Greer, George Segal, Jill Clayburgh.
(R, 112 min.)

Jake Gyllenhaal has always done better with edgy
material that subverts his sunny, smiling look. But
there are no hard angles to be found in this soft-heart-
ed drama that straddles comedy, medical crisis, and
the three-ring circus of Big Pharma in the Nineties.
Gyllenhaal plays Jamie, a Pfizer rep who, when he
lands the new Viagra account, happily combines his
two great loves: sex and hustling. When free-spirit
artist Maggie (Hathaway) enters the picture, the pair
embarks on something of a no-strings-attached sex
romp. Zwick's film bloats into sentimental hash when
their love affair becomes complicated by Maggie's ear-
ly-stage Parkinson's disease and creeping feelings of
real, not entirely welcome love for each other. There's
nothing wrong with sentimental hash, but whenever
Zwick catches the rhythm of one mood, he skips the
needle to try on another one. This broadness is like a
stake to the heart of the film's hard-earned but fast-
lost authenticity. (12/03/2010) – Kimberley Jones

★★★ Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

MEGAMIND D: Tom McGrath; with the voices of Will
Ferrell, Tina Fey, Jonah Hill, Brad Pitt, David Cross. (PG, 95 min.)

The DreamWorks Animation team devotes
its extraordinary attention to 3-D visual detail in
Megamind – most commonly to the illustration of
such mayhem as death rays vaporizing steel and
whole buildings turning to rubble. It's a lot of Sturm
und Drang that quickly grows repetitive; I'd trade 90%
of the action for a few more of those tight close-ups
of blue-hued Megamind (voiced by Ferrell). Megamind
is a self-professed supervillain, an alien who was
orphaned young and crafted an identity in counter-
point to another founding who fell to Metro City, USA,
on the same day – the buff, boffo Metro Man (voiced
by Pitt). But what's a big baddie to do when his neme-
sis and prime motivator takes an extended vacation?
Megamind gets existential, but only in blips, and while
it is never anything less than vibrant and exceedingly
clever, it is also a rather slight thing for such mega-
sized proportions. (11/05/2010) – Kimberley Jones

★★★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, CM

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TANGLED 3D (PG) Fri. - Thu. 10:00 12:20 2:35 4:50 7:05 9:20

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART 1 (PG-13)
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MORNING GLORY D: Roger Michell; with Rachel McAdams, Harrison Ford, Diane Keaton, Patrick Wilson, Jeff Goldblum, John Pankow. (PG-13, 102 min.)

Morning Glory aims for a mix of comedy, romance, and working-woman woes. Morning-show producer Becky (McAdams) is a little bit hunchy and bedraggled, but *adorably* so. Hired to turn around the disastrous ratings of a national morning show, Becky in turn hires a seasoned newsman, Mike Pomeroy (Ford), to co-anchor the program with sugar (on-camera) and spice (off-) Colleen Peck (Keaton). Mike is hell-bent on sabotaging what he rightfully considers to be a gig way, way beneath him, and the bulk of *Morning Glory* is spent tracking Becky's uphill battle to convince Mike to play nice for the camera. "Play nice" may very well be the mantra of Michell (*Notting Hill*), a director of excessive sentimentality and empty stylishness. Well-acted and ingratiating, with at least one howlingly funny sequence, *Morning Glory* had the capacity to be a smarter, tarter picture, though it's not bad as is. (11/12/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★ Gateway

NO PROBLEM D: Anees Bazmee; with Anil Kapoor, Sanjay Dutt, Akshaye Khanna, Sushmita Sen. (NR, 143 min., subtitled)

Cops and robbers play hide-and-seek in this new Bollywood comedy. (12/10/2010)
– Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

★ **127 HOURS** D: Danny Boyle; with James Franco, Kate Mara, Amber Tamblyn, Treat Williams, Kate Burton, John Lawrence. (R, 94 min.)

Calm, cool, and tear-your-hair-out exciting, *127 Hours* is an archetypal tale of man vs. nature vs. himself. Danny Boyle adapts Aron Ralston's "trapped in the wilderness" memoir with gripping aplomb. Ralston, after a morning of mountain-biking and cavorting in underground swimming holes with a pair of newbie female hikers (Tamblyn and Mara), falls from nature's grace and lands in a horrific situation: His arm is crushed and unable to be freed, he's low on water, and absolutely no one is aware of his plight. It's a bad trip in every sense of the phrase. *127 Hours* is an unrelenting tour de force but it's also an unforgettable examination of the human spirit under extreme duress. The fact that Franco gives the performance of his career is the icing on the cake. Fair warning, oh squeamish ones: *127 Hours* does not shy away from Ralston's ultimate method of obtaining egress from his predicament. Which is exactly as it should be. (11/19/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Metropolitan, Westgate



Ratatouille

Ratatouille (2007) D: Brad Bird; with the voices of Patton Oswalt, Lou Romano, Ian Holm, Janeane Garofalo, Brian Dennehy, Peter O'Toole, Brad Garrett. (G, 110 min.) This screening series complements Jason Middlebrook's exhibition "More Art About Buildings and Food." (*) @Arthouse, Sunday, 2pm; free.

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 2 D: Tod Williams; with Brian Boland, Sprague Grayden, Molly Ephraim, Katie Featherston, Micah Sloat, Vivis. (R, 91 min.)

Believe the hype: *Paranormal Activity 2* is exactly what you think or hope it is. I loathed the first film, but its cheap shocks and wait ... wait ... wait ... gotchas were a box-office cash machine. *Paranormal Activity 2* is something of a prequel to Oren Peli's initial film. But, most importantly, does it scare the hell out of you? Well, yes, it does. As it turns out, the new pair of victims, Kristi and Dan (Grayden and Boland), are related to the previous couple by blood ties. Plus, they have a child and a German shepherd in tow. The entire production is faux cinema verité, captured remarkably via security apparatus and nanny cam. That's the pitch, really: Supernatural stuff happens, and the audience gets to view it in edited real time. Granted, this inevitable follow-up is considerably spookier than its predecessor, but only in terms of the amount of jump-out-of-your-seatiness. It's not hell, but it's close. (10/29/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★ Movies 8, Tinseltown South

RARE EXPORTS: A CHRISTMAS

TALE D: Jalmari Helander; with Onni Tommila, Jorma Tommila, Ilmari Järvenpää, Peeter Jakobi. (R, 80 min., subtitled)

If you're sick and tired of the saccharine explosion of treacly holiday fare, then you could do far worse than this year's Fantastic Fest horror favorite, *Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale*. Set in the icy north of Finland, this dark gem depicts the travails of a tiny community forced into battle against a resurrected ur-Santa, complete with goatlike horns, cloven hoofs, and a legion of scrawny, naked "elves." Creepy, no? Director Helander barely scratches the surface of one hell of an idea, but what this *Christmas Tale* does, it does with wild abandon. When a multinational corporation begins taking samples from the peak of Korvatunturi mountain, beneath which 11-year-old Pietari (Onni Tommila) and his father live, odd things begin to happen. Clutching his favorite stuffed animal and trusty shotgun, Pietari hits the books and uncovers the truth about Santa. Jolly is not in this crimson nightmare's repertoire, and all that jazz with presents? Totally inaccurate. (12/10/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

RED D: Robert Schwentke; with Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman, Helen Mirren, John Malkovich, Mary-Louise Parker, Karl Urban, Rebecca Pidgeon, Ernest Borgnine, Brian Cox, Richard Dreyfuss. (PG-13, 111 min.)

Proof that the artistic collision between the aging baby boomers and their comic book-obsessed progeny makes for some strange, but entertaining, bed-fellows, *Red* features four leads with a combined age of 257 – add the grand, Methuselean Borgnine and you get a round 350 – who alternate between waxing eloquent on the ephemerality of youth and resuscitating said salad days by blowing shit up real good. Yee-haw! Willis plays a retired CIA badass named Frank Moses who, when the Agency decides to clean out the old guard, is forced to round up his Cold War "associates" – Freeman's rest-home-residing Joe, Cox's bearish ex-Soviet Ivan, Malkovich's paranoid comic foil Marvin, and the elegant Mirren as ex-MI6 operative Victoria. *Red* is, at its heart, a rom-com, guns 'n' bombs mash-up that poses serious questions about the role of the aged in a youth-mad, globalized system and then answers them with a smirk and a whole lot of terrifically choreographed action set-pieces. (10/15/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Movies 8, Lakeline

SKYLINE D: Colin Strause, Greg Strause; with Eric Balfour, Scottie Thompson, Brittany Daniel, Donald Faison, David Zayas, Crystal Reed, Neil Hopkins. (PG-13, 94 min.)

"Don't go toward the light" is the advice given to patients trying to resist death's embrace. The advice might also prove wise for the characters in *Skyline*, an effects-heavy thriller about an alien invasion of Los Angeles. I'd use the term "science fiction" to describe *Skyline* but the movie decidedly lacks both science and fiction. The effects in this new movie are, indeed, quite stunning. However, *Skyline*, directed by the Brothers Strause, is the kind of movie in which the characters make so many dumb moves and repeat

the same trite exclamations that audiences love to watch them in order to yell mocking comments back at the screen. Logical questions arrive with almost every new sequence. Most curious of all, however, is how the filmmakers could pass up the obvious joke opportunities about Angelinos being done in by their "brainless" inability to resist bright, shiny objects. Don't make the same mistake: Don't go toward the light. (11/19/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★ Tinseltown South

★ THE SOCIAL NETWORK

D: David Fincher; with Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield, Justin Timberlake, Armie Hammer, Rooney Mara, Max Minghella, Joseph Mazzello, Rashida Jones. (PG-13, 121 min.)

Fincher's blisteringly entertaining *The Social Network* touches down in the calm before the storm, before social media rewrote the rules on how information moves. We first meet the eventual founder of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg (Eisenberg), in a bar, having drinks with his girlfriend (Mara). He is callous, socially inept, and ravenously ambitious – the boy who would be king, not yet fixed on what the kingdom will look like. *The Social Network* cuts with ease from flashbacks of Zuckerberg's undergraduate days to depositions related to two concurrent lawsuits brought against him. Although the legal proceedings provide a handy framework for the film, who did what to whom, when, and with how much premeditated bloodlust is of ancillary concern to the film's layered examination of an asshole. (That's the filmmakers' word, not mine.) History as we know it is still unfurling, and *The Social Network* is that rare film that has something – not yet definitive but certainly provocative – to say about it. (10/01/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ Arbor, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

TANGLED D: Nathan Greno, Byron Howard; with the voices of Mandy Moore, Zachary Levi, Donna Murphy, Ron Perlman, M.C. Gainey, Jeffrey Tambor, Brad Garrett. (PG, 92 min.)

The venerable Disney animators have climbed aboard both the CGI and 3-D bandwagons for their latest holiday release, which reworks the Brothers Grimm fairy tale *Rapunzel*. The classic hallmarks of Disney animation are all here: stunning attention to the details of nature and the inclusion of an evil mother figure as a trigger for the storyline. Rapunzel's hair should be listed as one of the story's main characters, so intrinsic is it to the film's appeal. As voiced by Moore, Rapunzel is a spunky gal, capable of defending herself and singing sturdily. Tony Award-winner Murphy brings stage showmanship to her musical interludes as Mother Gothel, which drip with sarcasm and biting wit. The songs by Alan Menken and Glenn Slater are fun but unmemorable, however. Even though the sight of Rapunzel's shimmering hair and scenes of flickering lanterns across the skyline are visual wonders, the biggest reactions to the animation seemed to come from scenes of classic physical comedy. (11/26/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate



Total Badass

Total Badass (2010) D: Bob Ray. (NR, 84 min.) Ray's film documents Chad Holt, who is described as a sex-addicted, magazine publishing, drug-using, music-making "renaissance man from the Austin underground." @Alamo Drafthouse Village, Sunday, 10pm.

★ **THE TOWN** D: Ben Affleck; with Ben Affleck, Jon Hamm, Jeremy Renner, Rebecca Hall, Blake Lively, Chris Cooper, Pete Postlethwaite, Titus Welliver. (R, 125 min.)

Affleck touches down again in Boston, for his second time behind the camera, following 2007's well-received *Gone Baby Gone*. The title's town is Charlestown, a kill-or-be-killed stretch of land notorious for hatching bank robbers like chickens do eggs. Ingrained violence and OxyContin addiction are casual facts in Charlestown, but Doug MacRay (Affleck) is trying to leave both behind, opting instead to knock over banks. Doug runs a crew with his childhood friend James (Renner, scary and rabid), and in a tight, fierce opening sequence, we see just how good these men are at their jobs. In that same sequence, Doug meets a woman named Claire (Hall) and, through her, begins to imagine a life outside of Charlestown. The tenderness of Affleck and Hall's scenes together elevate the routine one-last-job-and-I'm-out plot. Most of the film embraces a sort of moral ambiguity, but the climax – a well-staged series of calamities – and its sunset coda unsettlingly whitewash that complexity. (09/17/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ Movies 8

★ TOY STORY 3

D: Lee Unkrich; with the voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, Joan Cusack, Ned Beatty, Don Rickles, Michael Keaton, Wallace Shawn, John Ratzenberger, Estelle Harris, John Morris, Jodi Benson. (G, 102 min.)

While the first *Toy Story* triumphantly announced Pixar's arrival back in 1995, the franchise has never felt on par with the studio's later, more overtly lyrical pieces (*WALL-E*, *Up*). *Toy Story 3* doesn't attempt the kind of narrative artistry of those films, but that doesn't mean it's unsophisticated: In its own unassuming way, it says as much as *Up* did about the often-uneasy transition from one stage of life to the next – and all the more ingenious, then, that it's the life cycle of a pliable, Plasticine doll we genuinely worry over here. At the film's beginning, the toys – including series regulars Sheriff Woody (voiced by Hanks) and Buzz Lightyear (Allen) – are confronted with the question of their own continued usefulness when owner Andy packs up to go to college. The 3-D format is well-used but never intrusive, and one of the essential pleasures of the piece is its toy-sized perspective. (06/18/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ Movies 8

UNSTOPPABLE D: Tony Scott; with Denzel

Washington, Chris Pine, Rosario Dawson, Ethan Suplee, Kevin Dunn, Kevin Corrigan, Lew Temple, Jessy Schram. (PG-13, 98 min.)

Unstoppable is a lot like speed. Not the movie, the amphetamine. It's manic and wearily predictable, and as soon as it begins, you know *exactly* how it's going to end: with a hard, fast crash (and the requisite yakkety epilogue). Oh, but what a fun pitch meeting it must have been: "There's this unmanned train, see, powered up at full throttle, see, and it's headed toward population! And Denzel Washington plays a heroic motorman who recently lost his wife to cancer! And that new Captain Kirk guy's the rookie conductor, and he has a broken heart! How can it miss?!" How indeed? *Unstoppable* is interminable, especially for connoisseurs of the action spectacle. They will recall with fondness such far better films as *Runaway Train* or even *Von Ryan's Express*. Director Scott tosses the occasional foreign object onto the track from time to time, but in the end *Unstoppable* is derailed by its own one-track premise. (11/19/2010) – Marc Savlov
★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Millennium, Tinseltown North

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ALPHA AND OMEGA ★★ Movies 8

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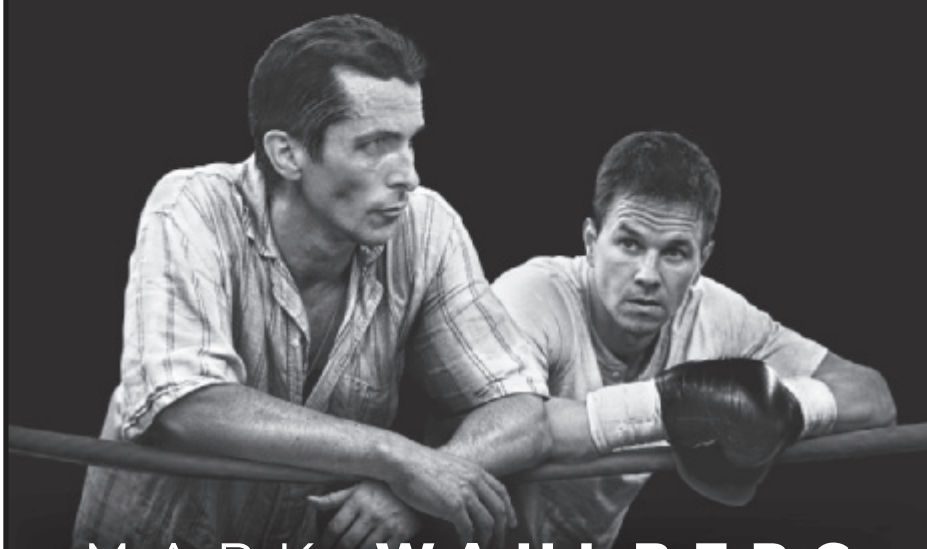
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TIME

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The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURSDAY 16

Brew Masters TV at the Alamo.
@Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 10pm.

Christmas Pops Sing-Along Action Pack.
Sing along with all your favorite pop and video stars' Christmas carols. @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

Daft Punk's Electroma (2006) *D: Thomas Bangalter and Guy-Manuel De Homem-Christo; with Peter Hurteau, Michael Reich. (NR, 74 min.)* Two robots – played by the Daft Punk musicians, composers of the score for *Tron: Legacy* – try to become human. Other musicians provide the soundtrack for this dialogue-free work. @Alamo Drafrthouse Lake Creek, 10pm.

Elf Quote-Along (2003) *D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell. (PG, 95 min.)* **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

NBC Thursdays TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 10pm.

O Brother, Where Art Thou? (2000) *D: Joel Coen; with George Clooney, John Turturro, Tim Blake Nelson, John Goodman, Holly Hunter, Chris Thomas King, Charles Durning, Michael Badalucco, Stephen Root. (PG-13, 103 min.)* **Food & Film Feast.** Addie Broyles of the *Austin American-Statesman* will introduce the film. See website for menu. (*) @Alamo Drafrthouse South, 7pm.

SPACES

Tron (1982) *D: Stephen Lisberger; with Jeff Bridges, Dan Shor, Barnard Hughes, Cindy Morgan, David Warner, Bruce Boxleitner. (PG, 96 min.)* See **website** for info and reservations. @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

FRIDAY 17

Christmas Show Master Pancake Theater. This seasonal show features the Master Pancake regulars and clips from favorite holiday TV specials and other weird holiday programs. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10pm.

Nagavalli (2010) *D: P Vasu; with Venkatesh, Anushka Shetty. (NR, 160 min.)* This is a new Telegu horror film, a follow-up to the director's 2005 Tamil film, *Chandramukhi*. (*) @Tinseltown South, 11:45am, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45pm.

SPACES

Danzón (1991) *D: Maria Novaro; with Maria Rojo, Carmen Salinas, Blanca Guerra, Tito Vasconcelos, Victor Carpintero. (PG-13, 120 min.)* **Spanish Conversational Group: Noche de Pelicula.** A woman leaves her home and family in Mexico City to embark on a romantic quest in Veracruz only to lose sight of the original subject of her search and, in the process, find something more precious – herself. (*) @EsquinaTango, 8:30pm; \$5 donation suggested.

Kodocha: School Girl Super Star **Austin Public Library: Anime Club.** Animated Japanese television series. TV-PG. @Twin Oaks Branch Library, 4pm; free.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Dec. 31 issue is Monday, Dec. 20.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com;

Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.



Nagavalli (2010) @Tinseltown South, 11:45am, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45pm. (See Friday.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 12mid.

Saturday Morning Cartoon Cereal Party: Holiday Edition Two-and-a-half hours of fine nutrition. Pajamas and stuffed animals encouraged. @Alamo Drafrthouse Lake Creek, 11am.

The Shop Around the Corner (1940) See p.74.

SPACES

Disney's A Christmas Carol (2009) *D: Robert Zemeckis; with Jim Carrey, Gary Oldman, Colin Firth, Cary Elwes, Robin Wright Penn, Bob Hoskins, Daryl Sabara. (PG, 96 min.)* **Austin Public Library: Family Movies.** Free. (*) @Southeast Austin Community Branch Library, 1pm.

Gremlins (1984) *D: Joe Dante; with Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates, Hoyt Axton, Frances Lee McCain, Polly Holiday, Dick Miller, Judge Reinhold, Corey Feldman; with the voice of Howie Mandel. (PG, 106 min.)* **Because It's That Time of Year.** See website for information and reservations. (*) @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 9pm.

Scrooged (1988) *D: Richard Donner; with Bill Murray, Karen Allen, John Forsythe, John Glover, Bobcat Goldthwait, David Johansen, Carol Kane, Robert Mitchum. (PG-13, 101 min.)* **Because It's That Time of Year.** See website for information and reservations. (*) @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

offscreen

501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre 501 Studios' soundstage in Downtown Austin now doubles as one of Texas' largest public theatres – with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, or concerts/plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. It's also still available as a soundstage or green screen. 485-3000. www.501studios.com.

Austin FilmWorks: Production One Spring Registration Open Filmmaker Steve Mims covers issues of technology, design, and practical application of technique with this comprehensive, hands-on, 14-week series of classes. Registration is now open for the spring 2011 series; see website for details. *Classes begin Feb. 1. Tuesdays, 6:30-9pm. Studio A-7, 701 Tillery. \$960.* www.austinfilmworks.com.

Austin School of Film Classes Prime yourself for cinematic advancement before the year ends with professional instruction in **Final Cut Pro 101**, the editing software for filmmakers, video artists, and all forms of digital media. *Fri.-Mon., Dec. 10-12, 10am-6pm.* There are equally pro classes for **Sound Recording for Film & Video**, **iDesign**, **Lighting 101**, and more: the best knowledge for *all* aspects of the industry. See website for details. www.austinfilmsschool.org/classes.

Call to Filmmakers: Faces of Austin This multimedia program screens on-demand films on the three wide-screen video displays in the City Hall atrium. Selected entries will be shown in a public screening during the "People's Gallery" exhibition in February at City Hall, on Channel 6, and online. See website for details. Application deadline: *Jan. 28. 974-7860.* www.cityofaustin.org/redevelopment/austinfaces.htm.

channelAustin Classes Austin's digital media center offers filmmakers professional, hands-on instruction in HD field equipment and studio production, plus affordable access to the latest high-end gear and software by Sony and Apple. Learn more on Mondays from 6 to 7pm. See website for details. 1143 Northwestern. www.channelaustin.org.

Cine las Americas International Film Festival: Call for Entries The festival happens in April of next year. See website for submission details. Deadline: *Jan. 14, 2011.* www.cinelasamericas.org.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, and a surround-sound system and supports Super 35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Accessible, restrooms – the works. It also has a break room suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

The Screenplay Workshop: Register for Winter Classes All programs are taught by professional screenwriters in Central Austin classrooms. **Screenwriting Fundamentals** *Tuesdays, Jan. 18-Feb. 15, 7-9:30pm, or Saturdays, Jan. 22-Feb. 19, 1:30-4pm. \$225 (\$210 until Dec. 17).* **Master Class** *Tuesdays, Jan. 18-March 22, 7-9:30pm, or Saturdays, Jan. 22-March 26, 1:30-4pm. \$395 (\$370 until Dec. 17).* **Private Screenwriting Coaching and Consultation** also available. See website for details. www.thescreenplayworkshop.org.

SUNDAY 19

Christmas Pops Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Thursday, 12/16.)

Christmas Show @Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 7pm. (See Friday.)

Elf Quote-Along (2003) @Alamo Drafrthouse Lake Creek, 7pm. (See Thursday, 12/16.)

Get Crazy (1983) *D: Allan Arkush; with Malcolm McDowell, Allen Goorwitz, Daniel Stern, Gail Edwards, Miles Chapin, Ed Begley Jr., Stacey Nelkin, Bill Henderson, Lou Reed, Howard Kaylan, Mary Woronov, Paul Bartel, Franklyn Ajaye, Lee Ving, John Densmore. (R, 92 min.)* **Zzang!** An eclectic cast shines in this hilarious goof on the backstage and onstage antics and truths surrounding a New Year's Eve rock concert. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

Home Alone (1990) @Alamo Drafrthouse Lake Creek, 10:30am. (See Saturday.)

Miracle on 34th Street (1947) @Paramount, 7pm. (See Saturday.)

The Shop Around the Corner (1940) See p.74.

Total Badass (2010) See p.76.

SPACES

Dexter Watch Party @Jo's (Downtown), 8pm; Free.

"Plastic Bag" (2009) *D: Ramin Bahrani; narrated by Werner Herzog. (NR, 18 min.)* **Meet a Community Group.** A conversation with members of Ecology Action will follow the screening of this short film by the visually astute director of *Goodbye Solo* and narrated by film legend Werner Herzog. @MonkeyWrench Books, 7pm; free.

Ratatouille (2007) See p.76.

MONDAY 20

Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle With All-You-Can-Eat Miniburgers (2004) *D: Danny Leiner; with John Cho, Kal Penn, Paula Garcés, David Krumholtz. (R, 87 min.)* **High for the Holidays.** Good, dumb, stoner fun featuring authentic all-you-can-eat miniburgers. @Alamo Ritz, 7:40pm.

Head (1968) *D: Bob Rafelson; with Peter Tork, Davy Jones, Micky Dolenz, Michael Nesmith, Annette Funicello, Timothy Carey. (G, 86 min.)* **Music Monday.** The Monkees overstepped in a most fascinating manner during their jump from the little screen to the big. Rafelson and co-conceptualist Nicholson did for the Monkees what Richard Lester did for the Beatles with *A Hard Day's Night* and *Help!*, created a wacked-out, aimless universe that constantly riffs on popular culture. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

Home Alone (1990) @Alamo Drafrthouse Lake Creek, 10:30am. (See Saturday.)

SPACES

Dragnet (1988) *D: Tom Mankiewicz; with Dan Aykroyd, Tom Hanks, Christopher Plummer, Harry Morgan. (PG-13, 106 min.)* **I Luv Video Presents.** Classic TV episodes screen at 6:30pm @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

Life of Brian (1979) *D: Terry Jones; with Jones, Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Michael Palin. (R, 93 min.)* **Because It's That Time of Year.** See website for information and reservations. (*) @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

Nazarin (1959) See p.74.

The Nutcracker (1977) *D: Tony Charmoli. (NR, 78 min.)* **Austin Public Library: Classic Christmas Cinema.** Performed by Mikhail Baryshnikov and the American Ballet Theatre. @Cepeda Branch Library, 6pm; free.

Check Film Listings online for
full-length reviews,
up-to-date showtimes,
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TUESDAY 21

Christmas Show @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7pm. (See Friday.)

Glee TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm.

Home Alone (1990) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10:30am. (See Saturday.)

Love Actually (2003) D: Richard Curtis; with Hugh Grant, Emma Thompson, Alan Rickman, Bill Nighy, Liam Neeson, Colin Firth, Keira Knightley. (R, 135 min.) **Girlie Night.** This merry skein of loves lost and found is set in holiday-season London. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

The Seagull's Laughter (2001) See p.74.

Silent Night, Deadly Night (1984) D: Charles E. Sellier Jr.; with Robert Brian Wilson, Lilyan Chauvin, Gilmer McCormick, Toni Nero, Linnea Quigley. (R, 82 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** Santa Claus is on a killing spree. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

WEDNESDAY 22

Home Alone (1990) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10:45am. (See Saturday.)

The Magic Christmas Tree (1965) D: Richard C. Parish; with Chris Kroesen, Valerie Hobbs, Robert "Big Buck" Maffei, Darlene Lohnes. (NR, 60 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** A magic tree grants a boy three wishes, so he abducts Santa Claus and all his toys. @Alamo Ritz, 12:30am; free.

Nothing Lasts Forever (1984) D: Tom Schiller; with Zach Galligan, Apollonia van Ravenstein, Bill Murray. (PG, 80 min.) **Tom Schiller Live.** This surreal comedy was made by *Saturday Night Live* people and includes appearances by Dan Aykroyd, Imogene Coca, Mort Sahl, Sam Jaffe, Eddie Fisher, Lawrence Tierney, and Calvert DeForest (aka Larry "Bud" Melman). The director will be in attendance. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

imax

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (2010) D: David Yates; with Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Ralph Fiennes, Alan Rickman, Helena Bonham Carter, Julie Walters, Bill Nighy, Imelda Staunton, Tom Felton, Rhys Ifans, Jason Isaacs, Helen McCrory, Peter Mullan. (PG-13, 146 min.) See review, p.74. (*) Thu. (12/16), noon, 3, 6, 9pm.

Hubble 3D (2010) D: Toni Myers; narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. (NR, 45 min.) This breathtaking documentary follows NASA's May 2009 mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope. (*) Thu. (12/16)-Sat., 11:30am; Mon.-Thu. (12/23), 11:30am.

Legends of Flight (2010) D: Stephen Low. (NR, 42 min.) One hundred years of aviation history are explored in this 3-D film, which also looks to the future of commercial airline travel. Thu. (12/16)-Thu. (12/23), 10:30am.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) D: Scott Swafford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of producing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (12/16)-Sat., 9:30am; Mon.-Thu. (12/23), 9:30am.

Tron: Legacy (2010) D: Joseph Kosinski; with Jeff Bridges, Garrett Hedlund, Olivia Wilde, Bruce Boxleitner, Michael Sheen, James Frain, Anis Cheurfa. (PG, 125 min.) (*) Fri.-Thu. (12/23), 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:30pm.

The Holy Mountain (1973) D: Alejandro Jodorowsky; with Jodorowsky, Horacio Salinas, Zamira Saunders. (R, 114 min.) **High for the Holidays.** Trippy imagery, religious overtones, and hallucinatory symbolism are the hallmarks of this epic film from cult visionary Jodorowsky. @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

SPACES

The Great Silence (1968) D: Sergio Corbucci; with Jean-Louis Trintignant, Klaus Kinski, Vonetta McGee. (NR, 105 min.) **Austin Public Library: Wintry Westerns.** In this Spaghetti Western, a mute gunslinger faces off against the outlaws and bounty hunters who chase them. @Milwood Branch Library, 6:30pm; free.

THURSDAY 23

Christmas Pops Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm. (See Thursday, 12/16.)

Elf Quote-Along (2003) @Alamo Ritz, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7pm. (See Thursday, 12/16.)

Home Alone (1990) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10:45am. (See Saturday.)

Horror Remix: You'd Better Watch Out! This remix features three lousy holiday slashers in two hours by slicing out the boring stuff and keeping the basic plot, gore, and cheese. This remix dices *Iced* (1988), *Christmas Evil* (1980), and *Silent Night Deadly Night: Part 2* (1987). @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm.

NBC Thursdays @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thursday, 12/16.)

SPACES

Die Hard (1988) D: John McTiernan; with Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman, Bonnie Bedelia. (R, 131 min.) **Because It's That Time of Year.** Classic TV at the Drive-In begins at 6:30pm. (*) @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.



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RECOMMENDED EVENTS FOR DEC. 17 TO DEC. 23

music

EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

listings

live music venues p.82 ● roadshows + club listings p.84



ArcAttack

Mohawk, Saturday 18

"I've been zapped a few times, but it's no worse than when I used to fix TVs," says Austinite Joe DiPrima, standing in front of the singing Tesla coils he designed. The two towers have a *Weird Science* feel – appropriate since DiPrima started

building them in his garage – but once the juice is turned on, you're in a prog-rock time machine out of *Dr. Who*.

The Tesla coils – originally invented by Nikola Tesla in 1891 – are the centerpiece of ArcAttack, DiPrima and crew's musical mystery science theatre, which also incorporates robotic drums, lightning guitar, and a Faraday suit. DiPrima explains that the Tesla coils' lightning ionizes the air and electromagnetically vibrates the atmosphere, producing melodies.

Really loud ones. The local quintet plays originals and covers, like its bong-ripping rendition of "Iron Man" at Fun Fun Fun Fest last month. Fourteen or 15 generations later, the coils have been on the road quite a bit. The crew even landed in the semifinals of *America's Got Talent* this summer, causing Sharon Osbourne to crack a smile. On the roof of Mohawk, it should be quite the spectacle. Bonus points: *National Geographic's* filming it, so wear your best outfit. 7pm.

– Audra Schroeder

TURBO FRUITS, PUJOL

Red 7, Friday 17

Nashville's Be Your Own Pet are no more, but its offshoots are still grinding gears. Turbo Fruits, featuring BYOP guitarist Jonas Stein, huffed and puffed 1970s punk fumes on last year's *Echo Kid* (Fat Possum). Both the Fruits and fellow Nashville garage rock enthusiast Pujol have new 7-inches on Stein's Turbo Time Records. Locals Rayon Beach and Dikes of Holland shake and rattle first.

– Audra Schroeder

ANDY DICK & THE BITCHES OF THE CENTURY

Emo's, Saturday 18

Actor Andy Dick's 2010 involved trespassing, crotch-grabbing, and being kicked out of a winery, so why not end the banner year with a not-at-all-sober holiday revue? Lord knows what Dick's Bitches will be "stuffing" in stockings, but Trashy & the Kid, One-Eyed Doll, and Whiskey Dick provide the drinking music, while Lucas Dick, JT Habersaat, and Mack Lyndsay reel in the yucks. That's a lot of Dicks.

– Audra Schroeder

AUSTIN VS. HOUSTON NOISE NIGHT

Club 1808, Saturday 18

Think of this battle royal like the Run DMC/Aerosmith "Walk This Way" video. On one side, Houston noiseniks Concrete Violin, Zahava, and Astrogenic Hallucinating whip up Bayou gunk. In the other corner, Breakdancing Ronald Reagan, Dromez, Waco Girls, and Sex Bruises bring on the hometown racket. Place your bets!

– Audra Schroeder

U-18/U-21 BENEFIT SHOW

Emo's, Sunday 19

The poster reads, "No one over 21 allowed" – a reminder that Austin acts still breed attitude. Five young local rock favorites pack in Emo's starting at 1pm: AfterMath, Avenging Poor Yorick, Electric Society, Edison Chair, and Federal! State! Local! Two tickets to Emo's New Year's Eve show will be given away, and the show benefits Music in Schools. The future revs right here.

– Margaret Moser

LADIES' NIGHT AT ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Palmer Events Center, Tuesday 21

Still time to browse the 'Dillo bazaar in its new location while taking in a charming local array of music, like Ray Wylie Hubbard (Sunday) and Hot Club of Cowtown (Thursday, Dec. 23). Austin's jingle belles celebrate all day Tuesday with Patricia Vonne's Latina rock (noon-2:30pm), Suzanna Choffel's soulful pop (3:30-6pm), and the bluesy combo of pianist Marcia Ball and guitarist Ruthie Foster (8-11pm). Having them all in one place is a gift indeed.

www.armadillobazaar.com.

– Margaret Moser

GARY CLARK JR., CROOKS

Continental Club, Thursday 23

The title of Crooks' new four-song EP *Lonesome, Rowdy and Restless*, sums up the appeal of this promising local quartet. With classic country grit, East Austin edges, and mariachi flourishes that recall the Southwestern landscapes of early Calexico, Crooks' hard-scrabble Americana sits comfortably on the Continental's bar stools. Headliner and *Honeydripper* Gary Clark Jr. returns from the Crossroads (festival) and buries the blues.

– Austin Powell

soundcheck

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

JOSE FELICIANO

One World Theatre, Friday 17
Feliciano! for the holidays.
7 & 9:30pm.

SCHMILLION

Emo's, Friday 17
See "Off the Record," p.51.

THE FIGHTING BROTHERS MCCARTHY CHRISTMAS RUMBLE

ND at 501 Studios, Saturday 18
Roots-rock fisticuffs with the Brothers, Toof, and the Service Industry.

PAUL RAY & THE COBRAS

Continental Club, Saturday 18
It wouldn't be the holidays without the Cobras' sweet SoCo R&B.

MIND SPIDERS

Beerland, Sunday 19
Marked Men side project gets locals Flesh Lights, OBN IIIs, and Wild America tangled in the garage.

SOUL OF THE SEASON

Victory Grill, Sunday 19
Afrofreque, Akina Adderley, Ephraim Owens, Jeff Lofton, Miss Lavelle White, and more rally for DiverseArts. 2pm.

BLUES CHRISTMAS SHOW

Antone's, Wednesday 22
Ian McLagan, Scrappy Judd Newcomb, Will Sexton, and others heat up East Fifth.

CHRISTMAS FORMAL

Beerland, Thursday 23
Drunk punks Bottle Service pop off Christmas Eve eve.



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Friday: **Little League, Senders**, Trailer Space, 7pm
Saturday: **Trumpeter Swan**, End of an Ear, 6pm; **Gherri Signfeldt's Atrophied Sac**, the **Organians**, **Low Red Center**, **Magic Jewels**, Trailer Space, 7pm
Wednesday: **Attic Ted**, **Teenage News**, **Serious Tracers**, **Gasoline Rainbow**, Trailer Space, 7pm
Thursday: **Nicaragua**, **Diving**, **Oriana Raeo**, Trailer Space, 7pm



| L - R: JOSE FELICIANO (FRI., 12/17) | TURBO FRUITS (FRI., 12/17) | ANDY DICK (SAT., 12/18) | AFTERMATH (SUN., 12/19) | CROOKS (THU., 12/23)

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PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
QUALITY SEAFOOD MARKET, 5621 Airport, 454-5827
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Hwy. 183 N., 335-5115
RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100
RED EYED FLY, 715 Red River, 474-1084
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 9721 Arboretum Blvd., 343-2626
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder St., Round Rock, 512/218-0813
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, 107 W. Sixth, 477-7884
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SÃO PAULO'S RESTAURANTE, 2809 San Jacinto, 473-9988
SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR, 5900 Slaughter #400, 288-9994
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
THE SCOOT INN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 601-5 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2060
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SOUTH FIRST FOOD COURT, 603 W. Live Oak, 796-9212
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
STAR BAR, 600 W. Sixth, 477-8550
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
III FORKS, 111 Lavaca, 474-1776
TRAILER SPACE RECORDS, 1401-A Rosewood, 524-1445
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary St., San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
UNITY CHURCH OF THE HILLS, 9905 Anderson Mill, 335-4449
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057
VINO VINO, 4119 Guadalupe, 465-9282
THE WATER-HOLE SALOON, 5244 Hwy. 71 E., Del Valle, 512/247-5119
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 9600 Escarpment Blvd., 301-1007
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

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Thu, Feb17 • 8pm

All Tix \$15



Fri, Apr29 • 8pm



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Cody Canada & The Departed • Fri, Feb11



Friday, February 18 • 8pm

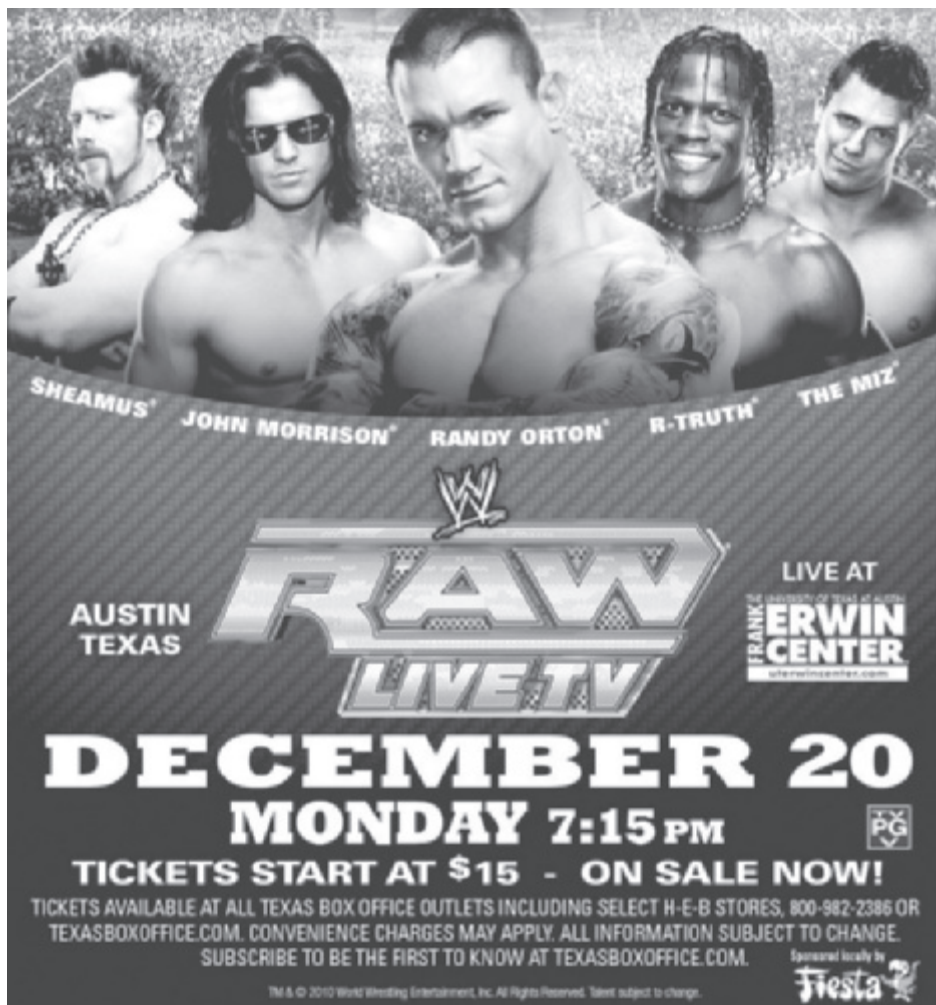


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All dates, acts & ticket prices subject to change without notice. All tickets subject to applicable service charges.

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Thursday, December 16th
JONATHAN FOX BAND

Friday, December 17th
JASON BOLAND

Saturday, December 18th
JOSH ABBOTT BAND
COUPLAND CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Friday, December 31st
GRANGER SMITH
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Saturday, January 1st
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NEW LOCATION

December 15 – 24 | 11 am – 11 pm | Palmer Events Center | 900 Barton Springs Road, near South First

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Thursday 12/16</p> <p>Uncle Lucius 12:00-2:30</p> <p>Kalu James 3:30-6:00</p> <p>The Gourds 8:00-11:00</p> <p>Friday 12/17</p> <p>The Marshall Ford Swing Band 12:00-2:30</p> <p>Hank & Shaidri Alrich with Doug Harman 3:30-6:00</p> <p>Cody Canada 8:00-11:00</p> <p>Saturday 12/18</p> <p>Terri Hendrix 12:00-2:30</p> <p>Eliza Gilkyson 3:30-6:00</p> <p>Ian McLagan & the Bump Band 8:00-11:00</p> | <p>Sunday 12/19</p> <p>Ray Wylie Hubbard 12:00-2:30</p> <p>The Derailers 3:30-6:00</p> <p>The Band of Heathens 8:00-11:00</p> <p>Monday 12/20</p> <p>Biscuit Brothers 12:00-2:30</p> <p>Mary Hattersley's Blazing Bows 2:30-3:00</p> <p>Sara Hickman's Family Time Rocks 3:30-6:00</p> <p>The Eggmen 8:00-11:00</p> <p>Tuesday 12/21</p> <p>Patricia Vonne 12:00-2:30</p> <p>Suzanna Choffel 3:30-6:00</p> <p>Marcia Ball/Ruthie Foster 8:00-11:00</p> | <p>Wednesday 12/22</p> <p>Deadman 12:00-2:30</p> <p>Albert & Gage 3:30-6:00</p> <p>Asleep At the Wheel Quartet 8:00-11:00</p> <p>Thursday 12/23</p> <p>Hot Club of Cowtown 12:00-2:30</p> <p>The Trishas 3:30-6:00</p> <p>Carolyn Wonderland/Shelley King 8:00-11:00</p> <p>Friday 12/24</p> <p>Warren Hood 12:00-2:30</p> <p>Slim Richey 3:30-6:00</p> <p>Texana Dames 8:00-11:00</p> |
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JANUARY 25

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club listings

ALL AGES VENUE ROADSHOW RECOMMENDED HEAR MUSIC ONLINE

THU 16

ACES LOUNGE Bleu Edmondson (8:00) **R**

ANTONE'S Tab Benoit (7:00); Matt King, Reckless Kelly (9:00) **R**

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Frank Meyer (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Alan Haynes (8:00)

BEAUTY BAR X-Mas Sweater Party w/ DJ Kon Karne, DJ Lee Roi, Magnifico!

BEERLAND Ryan Rooney, Ichi Ni San Shi, Beta Rhythm, Dead Space, Followed by Static **J**

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Kindred's Kombo, Jennifer B.

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton **J** (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Upper Classman, Designer Genes, Liz Simmons, Rusty Vein **J** (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Much Love, Suede (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Paul Klemperer's My Exotic Other (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Dirty River Boys, Turnpike Troubadours

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Chris Beirne Trio (8:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Continental Graffiti (9:30); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30); Shannon McNally, Uncle Lucius (10:00) **R**

COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Dance U2, Alvaro Aguilar (8:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: The Atomic Duo (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30), Mark Goodwin (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Albanie & Her Fellas (6:00), Aaron Allen (9:30)

EMO'S El Pathos, the Bulemics, Babydick, Rockbusters **R**

EVANGELINE CAFE Chrissy Flatt (7:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Perfect Pants **J**, Manic Mongrel, Fatback Circus, Muchos Backflips! **J** (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Troy Campbell (6:00), Susquehanna Hat Company (8:00)

FRIENDS Brother Magnum & the Razorbumps, Eric Tessmer (7:00)

G&S LOUNGE The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Will Cope & the Bastards, End Wave, Mini Mansions, Distance Runner (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Chris Ruest (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Lisa Marshall (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Milezo, Monster Mountain (10:00)

HOUSE WINE George Macias (8:00)

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Chris Brecht & the Dead Flowers (8:00)

JOE'S CRAB SHACK Burnevik Vega (7:00)

JOVITA'S Rev. Deadeye (8:00) **R**

LAMBERTS Aaron Einhouse (10:30)

THE LION AND ROSE Open Mic w/ the Cole Williams Band (8:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Dallas Seely, Josh Patton (10:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Rick Harvey & the Texcellorators (8:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Billy Garza & 40 Guns (8:00)

MOHAWK Brothers, Neon Cobra, the Baker Family, Whalers (9:00) **R**

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, clubs@austinchronicle.com.

Austin bands: We want to hear from you. If you haven't registered and uploaded your MP3s to the Musicians Register, go to austinchronicle.com/register. Anywhere your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

ND AT 501 STUDIOS McMercy Family Band Christmas Show w/ Minor Mishap Marching Band (8:00)

NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY Liz Morphis

ONE 2 ONE BAR Tucker Jameson & the Hot Mugs, the Hi-Defs (9:00)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Uncle Lucius, Kalu James **J**, the Gourds (noon)

THE PARISH Holy Wave, English Teeth **J**, Eric Brendo **J**, Silver Ships (9:00) **R**

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Long Tall Eddy **J**

RED 7 PBR Kitten, Chainbow, Woozyhelmet, Hug **J**, Christeene

RED EYED FLY The Aurelius, Chesterfield, Black Ladder, Attack Power!, Done Deal **J** **R**

RED FEZ Soultion **J** (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Darren Hoff & the Hard Times

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton (7:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Caribbean Steelpan Trio (7:00)

roadshows

December

THU 16

Bleu Edmondson, Aces Lounge

Matt King, Tab Benoit, Antone's

Shannon McNally, Continental Club

Rockbusters, El Pathos, Emo's

Rev. Deadeye, Jovita's

Brothers, Mohawk

Done Deal, Black Ladder,

Red Eyed Fly

FRI 17

Eleven Hundred Springs, Continental Club

Bob Cheevers, the Driskill Hotel

Akardia, Virus Filter, Elysium

Sundress, Emo's

D-Madness, Flamingo Cantina

Dead Rabbits, Hole in the Wall

Matt King, Jax Neighborhood Cafe

For Hours & Ours, Searcher, Mohawk

Jose Feliciano, One World Theatre

Cody Canada, Palmer Events Center

Air Review, the Parish

Turbo Fruits, Pujol, Red 7

The Rocketboys, the Scoot Inn

Valley of the Mariner, Ladymoon, Collective

Dreams, We Go Way Back, Stubb's

SAT 18

Concrete Violin, Zahava, Astrogenic Hallucinating, Club 1808

Auto Body, Club de Ville

Andy Dick & the Bitches of the Century, Emo's

Trumpeter Swan, End of an Ear

Trumpeter Swan, Flipnotics Coffeespace

Jerry Jeff Walker, Ted Russell Camp, Gruene Hall

El Pathos, Hole in the Wall

Ledaswan, Jovita's

Scott Miller, Lamberts

Doug Burr, Mohawk

Crypt Creeps, Red 7

Frankie Hernandez, South First Food Court

Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band, Stubb's

SUN 19

Bonnie Blue, Emo's

Mitch Webb, Güero's Taco Bar

David Broza, One World Theatre

MON 20

Frankie Hernandez, South First Food Court

TUE 21

Guns of Navarone, Mean-Eyed Cat

The Kinder Gardeners, Slow Car Crash, Ahmond, Red Eyed Fly

WED 22

Saint Cloud, the Scoot Inn

Gasoline Rainbow, Trailer Space Records

THU 23

Ron Wilkins Quartet, Elephant Room

BROKEN SPOT
WE HATE FANCY, BUT WE CAN SHURE COUNTRY!

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PHOTO BY M. DAPRA

THU, DEC 16 6-8PM **TONY HARRISON**
8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:15PM **JESSE DAYTON**

FRI, DEC 17 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:15PM **TWO TONS OF STEEL**

SAT, DEC 18 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:30PM **DERAILERS**

TUE, DEC 21 **WELDON HENSON**
IN THE DANCEHALL

WED, DEC 22 6-8PM **BAND IN RESTAURANT**
8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:15PM **DALE WATSON** LADIES FREE

REWARD! (SEE PAGE 6)

THIS COULD BE THE VINTAGE AD!

HOLE IN THE WALL
AUSTIN TEXAS

EST. 1974

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16 ★ 10 PM
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MONSTER ISLAND
THE DESERTERS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 ★ 10 PM ★ \$5
OBSOLETE MACHINES
DEAD RABBITS (GA)
SIDESHOW TRAGEDY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 ★ 10 PM ★ \$5
BLITZEN
CHURCHWOOD
EL PATHOS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 ★ 10 PM ★
WHITE DRESS
SPECIAL GUESTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20 ★ 10 PM ★ \$2
MIKE AND THE MOONPIES
JONATHAN TERREL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21 ★ 9PM ★
CLYDE AND CLEM'S WHISKEY BUSINESS
JESSIE MOORE (SOLO)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22 ★ 9PM ★
J WESLEY HAYNES TRIO
ABOUT-BLANK

COMING SOON: 12/23 LIL CAPN TRAVIS, THE 44, LONESOME HEROES, OLDE WORLD, 12/25 18TH ANNUAL KARAOKE CHRISTMAS W/ HOSTS MISS DEBBIE KAY AND RUSTY TRAPPS, 12/29 J WESLEY HAYNES TRIO, TIME OUT 12/31 NEW YEAR'S EVE W/ FRANK SMITH AND SUPER SPECIAL GUESTS!!!

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12.16 New Disaster,
High Watt Crucifixers

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Eve and X-Mas Day

12.30 Vagabond
Swing, Shed Alfred

12.31 Free NYE party
w/ DJs, Hors D'oeuvres
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THU 12/16 11PM **DALLAS SEELY 10PM**
JOSH PATTON

FRI 12/17 9PM **THE DAMN TORPEDOS**
A TOM PETTY TRIBUTE BAND

SAT 12/18 9PM **FATTY MONK 9PM**
LATER DJ SPYDA SPINS 'TILL 2AM

SUN 12/19 10PM **SOUL KITCHEN**

MON 12/20 9PM **AUSTIN ALVAREZ**

TUE 12/21 9PM **'GET LUCKY' TUESDAYS**
DAN SIR DANCER

WED 12/22 9PM **bMUSED SHOWCASE**

THU 12/23 10PM 6PM THE RETURN OF **HAPPY HOUR**
FEATURING THE LEGENDARY
IAN MCLAGAN
& **THE BUMP BAND**
LATER @ 10PM:
DEREK WINTERS

10TH ANNUAL MAZEL BALL

FRI 12/24 9PM

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AND
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JJ GREY & MOFRO
W/ THAT ONE GUY

ON-SALE NOW FRI JAN 28

LED ZEPPELIN 2

ON-SALE NOW SAT JAN 29

BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE

TIX ON-SALE FRI 12/17 FRI FEB 18

UPCOMING SHOWS
WED FEB 2: TOKYO POLICE CLUB

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ON SALE FRI DEC 17 10AM

IN THE CLUB

FRI DEC 17 DOORS 9PM
VALLEY OF THE MARINER
WITH COLLECTIVE DREAMS
& BOMBING STASSNEY

SAT DEC 18 DOORS 8PM
REVEREND PEYTON'S
BIG DAMN BAND

THU DEC 30 DOORS 10:15PM
BOB FLOYD BAND
WITH ACACHAY & RICKY STEIN

FRI DEC 31 DOORS 9PM
T-BIRD AND THE BREAKS
NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW
WITH DJ JJ LOPEZ
TIX INCLUDE BBQ & A CHAMPAGNE TOAST!

THU JAN 6 FREE WEEK!
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THE LONG TANGLES
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FRI JAN 7 FREE WEEK!
ART VERSUS INDUSTRY
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& LAUREN BURTON

SAT JAN 8 FREE WEEK!
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WITH SOUR SOUL, HYDRA MELODY
& VINYL DHARMA

FRI JAN 14
CORNMEAL

SAT JAN 22 DOORS 9PM
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& IAMDYNAMITE

SUN JAN 23 DOORS 8PM
THE VESPERS

WED JAN 26 DOORS 9PM
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THE TRISHAS 8PM \$10
BETTY SOO 10PM \$8
Dustin Welch 12AM \$5
No Cover Happy Hour **EIGHTYSIXED** 6PM
w/ DAVID HOLT, TOMMY SLASSON, & GUESTS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

OZ NOY TRIO
w/ ANTON FIG & ROSCOE BECK
9PM \$15 Adv/\$18 Door
Hector Ward & the Big Time 12AM \$10
No Cover Happy Hour
EARL POOLE BALL & THE COSMIC AMERICANS 6PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

WC Clark Recording Live! 8PM \$10
Godfather of the Austin Blues
GINGER LEIGH 11PM \$10
MATT SMITH'S WORLD 12AM \$5

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

MONTE MONTGOMERY 10:30PM \$10
THE RESENTMENTS 7:30PM \$7
with Bruce and Scrappy
Bobby Whitlock & Coco Carmel 6PM \$10
Jay Thomas Band 12:30AM \$5
BRIAN MCRAE 3PM No Cover

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

LONELYLAND with **BOB SCHNEIDER** 8PM \$10
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 7PM \$10
Jeff Plankenhorn 11PM \$5
HalleyAnna 12:30AM \$5

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Kurt BoDean & Wirelence 10PM \$10
Bruce Hughes & the All Nude Army 8PM \$5
TESSA 12AM \$5
No Cover Happy Hour **LJ & THE EL DORADOS** 6PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

WALT WILKINS & THE MYSTIQUEROS 9PM \$10
Hayden Vitera 11PM \$5
ghosts along the brazos 12:30AM \$5
No Cover Happy Hour **The Nortons** 6PM

COMING UP
12/24 WARREN HOOD & THE GOODS
12/26 JOSEPH KING
12/29 BROTHERS OF THE CASTLE (FEAT. MEMBERS OF DEL CASTILLO)
12/30 CAROLYN WONDERLAND
12/31 GUY FORSYTH

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7:30 Slim Richie & the Jitterbug Vipers
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Fri Dec 17
Friday Night Supper Club 7 - 10 pm
Hosts Jon Hogan and Maria Moss
with special guests
Tommy Byrd & Kathy Street
10 Ray Bonneville

Sat Dec 18
2pm Barton Hills Choir sings Christmas Songs
7 Mike June
8 Barbera Nesbitt
9-11 Jackie Myers Band

Sun Dec 19
8-10 Lars Bonde & Aisha Inger Holm

Wed Dec 20
7 Lars Bonde & Aisha Inger Holm
8 www.SongWriterWeekly.com
10 The Saddle BleuCheese Christmas Party

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CLUB LISTINGS FROM THURSDAY

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00); the Trishas, BettySoo, Dustin Welch (8:00)
THE SCOOT INN Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business, Whiskey Shiver, the Black (9:00)
STAR BAR Allen Daniels (7:00)
T.C.'S LOUNGE Lisa Marshall (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Acoustic Open Mic
III FORKS Bruce James (6:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Peace Pipe Prophets (6:00), Grant Ewing (10:00)
Z'TEJAS Eagle Pritchard Murray

FRI 17

THE 512 BAR Rusty Trapps' Midnight Ramble (7:00)
ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Ulrich Ellison CD Release
ANTONE'S Stonehoney, Jason Eady, Charlie Robison (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Studebakers
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Rick Harvey & the Texcellorators (10:30)
BEERLAND Old Gray Mule, the Black Squeeze, Black Jesus
THE BELMONT Hedda Layne (6:00)
BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Pee Wee Moore, Gary Lee Cox
'BOUT TIME DJ Element
BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, Two Tons of Steel (8:00)
CANYON GRILL ICE HOUSE Chad Alan (7:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Elephant M. (9:00)
CEDAR STREET Trent Durham (6:00), Suede (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Dale Watson (6:30)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Bruce James Soultet (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Justin Haigh
CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Eddy Highway, David Nathan, King Air (8:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin Trio (10:30); In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30); Doug Moreland, Eleven Hundred Springs (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Lipservice
COTTON CLUB Janet Lynn (8:30)
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE W.C. Clark
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar: Bob Cheevers, the Carper Family (6:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Lucky Strikes
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi Tamazula (8:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Violet Crown Revue, Beto y los Fairlanes (6:00)
ELYSIUM Virus Filter, Akardia
EMO'S Inside: Schmillion, Follow That Bird!, Sundress, Ringo Deathstarr, Ume; Outside: Blood for Master, Epic, Cinder Cell, Powderburn, Snakeskin Prison
EVANGELINE CAFE The Moonhangers (10:00)
FADÓ The Blaggards (9:00)

FAIR BEAN COFFEE Open Mic w/ Amy Zamarripa (5:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Gravity Feed, D-Madness, Melody Maker (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs (6:00), Seela, Chris Vestre (8:00)
FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire (4:00), Carson Brock (7:30)
THE GHOST ROOM Wiretree, Luke Wade & No Civilians, San Saba County (9:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dane Sterling, Jon Emery (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Ruby Jane Smith (12:30), Jason Eady (5:00)
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames (6:30)
HARDTAILS BAR & GRILL Swamp Sauce (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Andrea Marie
HOLE IN THE WALL Obsolete Machines, Dead Rabbits, the Sideshow Tragedy (10:00)
HORNITOS TEX-MEX CAFE Leti De La Vega, Tye Dye John
JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Jeff & the Jumptones, Matt King (8:00)
JOVITA'S Girl Guitar, Jack Brewer, Frigid Coats (6:00)
LOS REYES MEXICAN GRILL & BAR Johnny Gonzales (6:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE The Damn Torpedoes (9:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)
MOHAWK Searcher, For Hours & Ours, Tactics, Pompeii, the Eastern Sea, This Will Destroy You (9:00)
ND AT 501 STUDIOS Rebecca Havemeyer Christmas Special (8:00), Peligrosa All-Stars (10:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY Rick Hornyak
ONE 2 ONE BAR Patrice Pike; Big Circle, TX (9:00)
ONE WORLD THEATRE Jose Feliciano (7:00, 9:30)
PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo Christmas Bazaar w/ Marshall Ford Swing Band, Hank & Shaidri Alrich w/ Doug Harman, Cody Canada (noon)
THE PARISH Moon, the Canvas Waiting, the Soldier Thread, Air Review
THE PARLOR Scrabble Robot (9:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Wink Keziah & the Kings of Cowtown
RED 7 Dikes of Holland, Rayon Beach, Pujol, Turbo Fruits
RED EYED FLY Bass Line Bums, Sometimes Salvation, War Pigs, Sad Wings
RED FEZ Matt Creaton, Allen Daniels Band (8:30)
RUTA MAYA Old Gray Mule (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Classic Rock Open Jam w/ Breck English (9:00)
SÃO PAULO'S RESTAURANTE Elias Haslanger, Three Jazz Collective (7:30)
SAXON PUB Earl Poole Ball & the Cosmic Americans (6:00); Oz Noy w/ Anton Fig & Roscoe Beck, Hector Ward & the Big Time (8:00)
THE SCOOT INN Jolly Ball w/ DJ Choroza Funk, the Rocketboys (9:00)

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Suede (9:00)
STAR BAR Bruce Smith (7:00)
STUBB'S We Go Way Back, Collective Dreams, Ladymoon, Valley of the Mariner
III FORKS Ken Slavin (7:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Shakey Jake (6:00); Paegan, the Monk, SBS (10:00)
UNITY CHURCH OF THE HILLS Christmas Program w/ A Cappella Texas, Austin Harmony (8:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Robbie Doyen (10:00)

SAT 18

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Dawn Maracle
ANTONE'S Cowboy & Indian, Mother Truckers, Dixie Witch (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sieker Band (7:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer (10:30)
BEAUTY BAR Maneja Beto, DJ Choroza Funk
BEERLAND These Are Words, Roo, Air Traffic Controllers, How I Quit Crack, the Zoltars
BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Birdlegg
'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, the Derailers (8:00)
CANYON GRILL ICE HOUSE Mystic Skye Riders (5:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Slurr, DJ Yosamite, Triggermen (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Invincible Czars (6:30)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Tea Merchants (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Cody Riley
CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Laura Freeman & the Hey Lollies (7:00)
CLUB 1808 HTX vs. ATX Noise w/ Astrogenic Hallucinating, Zahava, Concrete Violin, Sex Bruises, Waco Girls, Dromez, Breakdancing Ronald Reagan
CLUB DE VILLE Auto Body
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin Trio (10:30); In the Club: Redd Volkaert (3:00); Paul Ray & the Cobras, LeRoi Brothers (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz
COTTON CLUB Kenny Orts (9:00), New Texicans (10:00)
THE CROW BAR Troy Dillinger (11:00)
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE Deadman
DELI WERKS Ulrich Ellison CD Release
DONN'S DEPOT Nash Hernandez Orchestra
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Patricia G. (8:00)
EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM Luna Tart w/ the Cocktails (11:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bruce James
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Atash (8:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Ephraim Owens Quintet (9:30)
EMO'S Outside: Whiskey Dick, Mack Lindsay, One-Eyed Doll, Trashy & the Kid, Andy Dick & the Bitches of the Century; Inside: Jensen Eyes, Broken Gold, Dead End Cruisers



THE SWORD
with Mammoth Grinder and Eagle Claw
December 31st
New Year's Eve
At Mohawk
Presented by
Transmission
Entertainment
Tickets on sale now at
transmissionentertainment.com

THREADGILL'S North
www.threadgills.com

Aircargo
SUN. 12/10 11am Bluegrass Brunch no cover

Carper Family
WED. 12/22 7pm no cover

Jimmy LaFave
FRI. 12/31 check website or call for details
6416 N. LAMAR BLVD. (512)451.5440

THREADGILL'S South
www.threadgills.com

Brennen Leigh
SUN. 12/10 11am no cover
We will be open Christmas Day!
(both locations)

Paul Freeman
WED. 12/20 7pm no cover
301 W. Riverside Dr. 512.472.9304



ANDY DICK'S
SCHEDULE:
9:30 - 10:15
Whiskey Dick
10:15 - 10:30
Comedian Mack Lindsay
10:30 - 10:45
'Altercation Comedy's JT Habersaat'
10:45 - 11:00
Lucas Dick
11:00 - 12:15
Andy Dick and the
Bitches of the Century
12:20 - 1:10
One Eyed Doll
1:20 - Close
Trashy and the Kid
ANDY DICK LIVE!!!
Music and Comedy!
Tickets \$20 adv. & \$24 door
www.emosaustin.com

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Poodie's Hilltop ROADHOUSE
DOMESTIC BEER \$2.50
IMPORTED BEER \$3
PITCHERS \$6
BURGERS \$5
\$3 RITAS ALL DAY SAT. & SUN
*EXCEPT ROAD SHOWS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16
LONG TALL EDDY
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17
WINK KEVIAH & THE KINGS OF COWTOWN
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
JEFF STRAHAN
UPCOMING EVENTS:
NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH **CAROLYN WONDERLAND** • BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY AT POODIE'S
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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21
ANDREA MARIE & MAGNOLIA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22
OPEN MIC W/ **MARK ALLAN ATWOOD**
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23
JEREMY MILLER BAND
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25
MERRY CHRISTMAS OPEN 4PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16 • 7PM
CHRISSY FLAT TRIO
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 • 10PM • \$5
THE MOONHANGERS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 • 10PM • \$5
ALAN HAYNES



8106 BRODIE LANE
282-2586

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20 • 6:30PM
AUSTIN CAJUN ACES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
KEVIN GALLAUGHER 8PM
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22 • 7PM
TOMMY ELSKES



208 W. 4th St. Warehouse District 512-495-9669

THU 12/16 **MUCH LOVE** 6-8P
SUEDE AUSTIN 9:30P

FRI 12/17 **TRENT DURHAM** 6-8P
BLUE FINGER DISCO 9:30P

SAT 12/18 **VEGAS STARS** 9:30P

SUN 12/19 **SOULUTION** 8:30P

MON 12/20 **JORDAN TANNER** 6-8P
OPEN MIC 9P

TUES 12/21 **MARK GIBSON** 6-8P
THE INITIALS 9P

WED 12/22 **JOSH AND JASON** 6-8P
THE SPAZMATICS 9:30P

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LIVE MUSIC @ Central Market

THURSDAY, FRIDAY
& SATURDAY
6:30 - 9 PM

@ CENTRAL PARK
40th and North Lamar
call 512.206.1000 for details

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16
**PAUL KLEMPERER'S
MY EXOTIC OTHER**
a seasonal celebration

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17
DALE WATSON
a special honky-tonk christmas show

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
THE INVINCIBLE CZARS
performing the Nutcracker Suite & other Holiday favorites

NO MUSIC FEATURED
ON DECEMBER 23, 24, AND 25
MERRY CHRISTMAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30
ETHAN KENNEDY
rock, blues, jazz, country

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31
JEFF LOFTON QUARTET
jazz

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1
NO MUSIC FEATURED
HAPPY NEW YEAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6
8-9pm
**BRENNEN LEIGH
CARPER FAMILY BAND**
american, bluegrass, country, gospel

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7
TINY TIN HEARTS
indie chamber pop

café open 7am-9pm sunday-thursday; 7am-10pm friday & saturday at both locations

@ WESTGATE
4477 South Lamar
call 512.899.4300 for details

WEDNESDAY -
SATURDAY
6:30 - 9 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17
BRUCE JAMES SOULTET
soul

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
THE TEA MERCHANTS
irish, Celtic

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22
BOCK, BBQ, & THE BLUES
\$2 Shiners & BBQ Cafe Specials
JOHN GAAR & MICHAEL CROSS DUO

NO MUSIC FEATURED
ON DECEMBER 24, AND 25
MERRY CHRISTMAS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29
BOCK, BBQ, & THE BLUES
\$2 Shiners & BBQ Cafe Specials
THE RECUPERATORS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31
DAN DYER
indie soul

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5
BOCK, BBQ, & THE BLUES
\$2 Shiners & BBQ Cafe Specials
MANTECA BEAT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7
JESS KLEIN
indie soul pop

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

END OF AN EAR Trumpeter Swan
(6:00) **B**

EVANGELINE CAFE Alan Haynes
(10:00)

FIDDLER'S GREEN MUSIC SHOP Two
High String Band (8:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Jah Mighty
(9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Trumpeter
Swan, Paul Banks, Trey Brown
(8:30) **B**

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire (4:00), Trent
Turner (7:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Christmas Hoedown w/ Dale
Watson (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Ted Russell Camp
(1:00), Jerry Jeff Walker
(9:00) **B**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Erin Jaimes
(6:30)

HILL'S CAFE Bob Rhodes

HOLE IN THE WALL Blitzen,
Churchwood **B**, El Pathos
(10:00) **B**

JOVITA'S Dad Jim, Grub Dog & the
Modestos, Izzy Cox, Whiskey
Shiver, Chesterfield, Ledsan
(6:30) **B**

LAMBERTS Scott Miller (10:30) **B**

LOS REYES MEXICAN GRILL & BAR
Johnny Gonzales (6:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Fatty Monk, DJ
Spyda (9:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Jeff Banks (7:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Mary's
Distraction (6:30)

MOHAWK Mike & the Moonpies **B**
(5:00); the Whiskey Priest,
Lost River/Old River, Doug
Burr, ArcAttack (9:00) **B**

NASTY'S Fuzz Club w/ DJ Sue, DJ
Mike Buck, DJ Super K

ND AT 501 STUDIOS Rebecca
Havemyer Christmas Special
(8:00); Fighting Brothers
McCarthy Christmas Rumble
w/ the Service Industry, Toof **B**
(10:00) **B**

NEW EAST ARTS GALLERY DiverseArts
Holiday Party w/ James
Robinson (6:00)

**NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT
& BREWERY** Stephen Doster &
Bill Carter

ONE 2 ONE BAR Douglas Jay Boyd,
Active Radio (9:00)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo
Christmas Bazaar w/ Terri
Hendrix, Eliza Gilkyson, Ian
McLagan & the Bump Band
(noon)

THE PARISH Jingle Ball, Toys for
Tots Benefit (2:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE
Jeff Strahan (9:30)

RED 7 The Hotrod Hillbillies **B**, Johnny
Hootrock, Crypt Creeps **B**

RED EYED FLY Audiolight, Knock on
Wood, She Craves **B**, Squint,
Rock Salt Shotgun

RED FEZ Gabe Hayes, Tje Austin **B**
(10:00)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge:
Rich DeMarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Lost Immigrants

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR In the
Pocket (7:00)

SAXON PUB W.C. Clark, Ginger
Leigh, Matt Smith

THE SCOOT INN Caritas, Toys for
Tots Benefit w/ DJ Orion,
Greyhounds, Mudphonic (9:00)

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Texas T's
(9:00)

SOUTH FIRST FOOD COURT Frankie
Hernandez (4:00) **B**

STUBB'S Reverend Peyton's Big
Damn Band (8:00) **B**

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS Low Red
Center, Magic Jewels, the
Organians, Jherri Seinfeldt's
Atrophied Sac (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN The Beaumonts,
Mike & the Moonpies **B**
(10:00)

VICTORY GRILL Mix It Up Saturdays
w/ DJ Junior Vibes

THE WATER-HOLE SALOON Earl Hinton
(6:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Los Pistoles
(10:00)

SUN 19

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Bert
Rivera (6:30)

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes
Session (9:00)

BEERLAND Wild America, OBN
Ills, the Flesh Lights, Mind
Spiders **B**

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Kevin
& the Krawlers, Travis Green

BLUE VELVET Fractals (8:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (8:00)

Happy Holidays

OPA!

COFFEE & WINE BAR

LOCAL COFFEE AVAILABLE

THU 12/16
**BRUCE FRASER
DICKSON**

FRI 12/17
ETHEREAL SPECTRUM

SAT 12/18
COLIN McDONALD

SUN 12/19
MANDY ROWDEN

MON 12/20
GIRL GUITAR PRESENTS:
**A CHRISTMAS
SHOW**

TUE 12/21
OPA'N MIC

WED 12/22
**COLIN
MCDONALD**

**51 LOCAL AND
IMPORTED BEERS**

THU 12/23
DANIEL HARRIS

FRI 12/24
CLOSED AT 4PM

SAT 12/25
OPEN AT 4PM

**PINT NIGHT EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT
WITH FEATURED BEER GLASS INCLUDED**

HAPPY HOUR
MON-SAT 3-7PM ♦ ALL DAY SUNDAY
\$1 OFF BOTTLED BEERS ♦ \$2 SANGRIA & MIMOSAS
1/2 OFF GLASSES OF WINE (OPEN BOTTLES)

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TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

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STAR of TEXAS

Tattoo Art Revival

January 7-9, 2011

PALMER EVENT CENTER

Austin, Texas

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- 1/13 KOOP BDAY BENEFIT-SLAID CLEVES, KELLY WILLIS & SARA HICKMAN
- 1/21 SUZY BOGGUSS
- 1/22 KELLER WILLIAMS (TIX THRU C3CONCERTS.COM)
- 1/27 MONTE MONTGOMERY
- 1/28 GUY FORSYTH
- 2/10 LISSIE (TIX THRU C3CONCERTS.COM)
- 2/12 REVEREND HORTON HEAT
- 2/19 GRACE POTTER & THE NOCTURNALS (TIX THRU C3CONCERTS.COM)
- 3/25 G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE (TIX THRU C3CONCERTS.COM)



**COME JOIN US
AT ANTONE'S
FOR A SPECIAL
CHRISTMAS
NIGHT SHOW
SAT DEC 25TH**

VISIT WWW.ANTONES.NET FOR INFO ABOUT THE SHOW

THURSDAY DECEMBER 16TH
TAB
BENOIT
EARLY SHOW!

ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

★ **THREE GREAT SHOWS BENEFITTING THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS!** ★

THURSDAY DECEMBER 16TH
RECKLESS KELLY
10pm SHOW!

OPENING: **MATT KING**
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

FRIDAY DECEMBER 17TH
CHARLIE ROBISON

WITH **STONEHONEY & JASON EADY**
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18TH
THE MOTHER TRUCKERS

COWBOY & INDIAN
&
DIXIE WITCH
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

AUSTIN BLUES SOCIETY
DEC 20TH
ALL ARE WELCOME!
**OPEN BLUES
JAM! EVERY
MONDAY**
SIGN UPS 7pm
JAM STARTS 8pm

TUESDAY DECEMBER 21ST
**THE ABOMINABLE
INCONTINENCE
EXTRAVAGANZA!**
- A BIRTHDAY SHOW FOR -
GREG WILLIAMS
- & -
CHRIS TRAFTON
- WITH -
DAHEBEGEBEES
GROOVELINE HORNS
MC OVERLORD
DAVE MADDEN
THE SOUTHERN SIRENS
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22ND
Antone's Blue Christmas Bash
- WITH -
WILL SEXTON & FRIENDS
IAN McCLAGAN
SCRAPPY JUDD NEWCOM,
BILL CARTER, GLENN FUKUNGA,
HECTOR MENOS, & MORE!
OPENING: **THE PETERSON BROTHERS**
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

THURSDAY DECEMBER 23RD
- AN ACOUSTIC EVENING WITH -
**RANDY ROGERS
& BRADY BLACK**

VIP
TABLES
AVAILABLE!

ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

SUNDAY DECEMBER 26TH
**ROGER
CREAGER**

POST
CHRISTMAS
BASH!

ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

MONDAY DECEMBER 27TH
FOR CLIFFORD
MARCIA BALL, THE BLUEBONNETS
WITH KATHY VALENTINE, EVE
MONSES, DOMINIQUE DAVALOS,
LISA PANKRATZ, PATRICIA
VONNE, SHELLEY KING,
SARAH BROWN,
CARI HUTSON

ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

TUESDAY DECEMBER 28TH
**THE
JOE ELY
BAND**
- WITH -
DAVID GRISSOM
PAT MANSKE
JIMMY PETTIT
TICKETS & VIP
TABLES ON SALE NOW!

WED DECEMBER 29TH
HAYES CARLL

WITH
BOBBY BARE JR.
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

THURSDAY DECEMBER 30TH
**THE
SCABS**
PRE
NYE
BASH!
WITH: **paperthreat**
AND **SOUL TRACK MIND**
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

FRIDAY DECEMBER 31ST • NEW YEARS BLUES SHOW
★ **JIMMIE VAUGHAN** ★
& **THE TILT A WHIRL BAND**
- WITH -
MISS LOU ANN BARTON
- & -
PINETOP PERKINS
PLUS A SPECIAL
SURPRISE GUEST!
OPENERS: **THE HORTON BROTHERS & MIKE FLANIGIN'S B3 TRIO**
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

VIP &
HOTEL
PACKAGES
AVAILABLE!

Radisson

SATURDAY JANUARY 1ST
BOB SCHNEIDER
FIRST
SHOW OF
2011!
- OPENING -
LOVE AT WAR
SAINTS OF VALORY
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

SATURDAY JANUARY 8TH
- THE -
RADIATORS

WITH: **EXTREME HEAT**
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

WED JANUARY 26TH
**JASON
BOLAND**
- & THE -
STRAGGLERS
- OPENING -
TURNPIKE
TROUBADOURS
ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ANTONES.NET

FRIDAY FEB 4TH & SATURDAY FEB 5TH
**ROBERT RANDOLPH
& THE FAMILY BAND**
TWO
NIGHTS!
TICKETS THRU C3CONCERTS.COM

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10th Annual

**BAR
AND
RESTAURANT
EMPLOYEE
NEW
YEARS
EVE**
WEDNESDAY
December 29th
8:00 pm & NO COVER
Complimentary Drinks

Pre-Party
everyone welcome

speakeasy
ON THE AVENUE

featuring the sounds of

DJ Toddy B | DJ Hoodie Allen | DJ Abe

Don't go to BARENYE hungry! Stop by IMPERIA 7-9pm
For complimentary Sake and extended Happy Hour.

speakeasy
ON THE AVENUE

**NEW YEAR'S
EVE 2011**

BUY YOUR PRESALE TICKETS NOW

3 PARTIES UNDER ONE ROOF!

*LIVE MUSIC LOUNGE *TERRACE 59 *KABARET ROOM

MATCHMAKER BAND ALSO PLAYING

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MORE INFO CONTACT: EVENTS@47PARTY.COM OR 512-476-8017

412 CONGRESS AVE, AUSTIN TX 78701

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SUNDAY

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Barebones
Orchestra, Rederanged (5:00)

CEDAR STREET Soulution (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Gary
Floater Christmas Ball w/
Owen Temple, Adam Carroll

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: James
McMurtry, Mike Flanigin Trio
(8:30); In the Club: Junior
Brown & Tanya Rae (7:00),
Heybale! (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz
(7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris
Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Enlaces Latinos
(noon)

ELEPHANT ROOM Scotty B.

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro
Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

EMO'S Inside: Under 18/Under 21,
NARAS Benefit w/ AfterMath,
Electric Society, Avenging Poor
Yorick, Edison Chair (1:00);
Inside Later: Ghosts of the
Poveglia, Part the Skies/Empty
the Seas, For Every Empire,
Bonnie Blue, Aviana (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sweet
Bunch of Daisies, K.C. Turner,
the Welcome Matt & Danny
Schmidt (6:00)

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire (5:00), Blues
Jam (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Dale Watson (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT
Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL Ruby Jane Smith
(12:30), Jeff Strahan (5:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Mitch Webb
(3:00) R

HOLE IN THE WALL White Dress
(10:00)

HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR Open
Mic (4:00)

HOUSE WINE David Webb (6:00)

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Ted Hall's
Blues Church & Jam (8:00)

JOVITA'S Girl Guitar Holiday
Showcase (6:00)

LAMBERTS Opus de Funk (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Soul Kitchen
(10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Lucas Hudgins &
the First Cousins (7:30)

NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago
(1:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
(11:00am)

ONE WORLD THEATRE David Broza
(7:00, 9:30) R

PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo
Christmas Bazaar w/ Ray
Wylie Hubbard, the Derailers,
the Band of Heathens (noon)

RED 7 Asahara, Born to Lose

RED EYED FLY Use of Time,
Barbarians of Sevilla, Glow in
the Sun, Stampede Mesa

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt, DJ Cauze-One
(10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn
Allen

SAXON PUB Bobby Whitlock
& CoCo Carmel, the
Resentments, Monte
Montgomery

THE SCOOT INN AustinSurreal
Friends Not Family Holiday
Party w/ DJ Matt Sonzala, DJ
Richard Henry (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Grant
Ewing, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds,
Open Mic (8:00)

TROPHY'S Deuce Coupe, Two
Hoots & a Holler, Chaparral
(2:00)

VICTORY GRILL DiverseArts
Marathon w/ Miss Lavelle
White, Woody Russell, Harold
McMillan, James
Polk, Ephraim Owens, Phillip
Marshall's Estuary, Jeff Lofton,
Pamela Hart, W.C. Clark,
Akina Adderley & the Vintage
Playboys, Afrofreque (2:00)

ZTEJAS Chris Hawkes

MON 20

ANTONE'S Austin Blues
Society (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Danny Britt (7:30)

BAR 141 Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic
(7:00)

BEAUTY BAR The Blind Pets

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR
Southside Ramblers, J.T.
Coldfire, Southside Ramblers,
Franklin Wells (8:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

CEDAR STREET Jordan Tanner
(6:00), Open Mic w/ Jordan
Tanner (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
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FLYBOY CLICK
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THE PEOPLE VS. DELAROSA

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NEKRIST
STRANGER THAN USUAL
CHRIS CONDE

**3PM
SUNDAY
DECEMBER
19**

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Cheatham Street WAREHOUSE

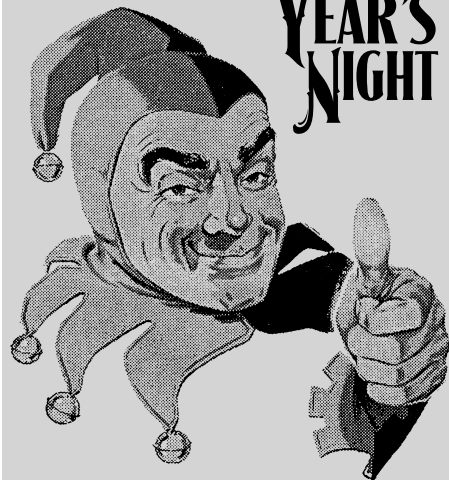
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SA **JUSTIN HAIGH BAND**
SU **CODY RILEY BAND**
GARY FLOATER XMAS BALL WITH
ADAM CARROLL, OWEN TEMPLE,
AND OTHERS
MO **CHEATHAM ST. ALL-STARS**
TU **MIDNIGHT RIVER CHOIR**
WE **KENT FINLAY'S SONGWRITERS' CIRCLE**
AND POT LUCK XMAS SUPPER 8PM

COMING DEC 26 **STERLING FINLAY BIRTHDAY PARTY**
SOON 4:00 TILL ??
JAN 1 **HAIR OF THE DOG FESTIVAL**
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Mohawk AUSTIN, TEXAS

912 red river all are welcome.

Th 12/16 - Whalers The Baker Family, Neon Cobra, Brothers - 10pm
F 12/17 - This Will Destroy You, The Eastern Sea, Pompeii,
Tactics, For Hours and Ours, Searcher - 8:30pm
Sa 12/18 - EARLY: Arc Attack - 8pm
LATE: Doug Burr, Lost River/Old River, Whiskey Priest - 10pm
Su 12/19 - Private Party
Tu 12/21 - HAPPY HOUR: Mike and the Moonpies - 5pm
W 12/22 - Marabout Saints, tba - 10pm
12/24-26 - CLOSED FOR CHRISMUKKAH
Tu 12/28 - HAPPY HOUR: Mike and the Moonpies - 5pm
W 12/29 - Magic Jewels, Mermaid Blonde, Slugbug - 10pm
F 12/31 - New Year's Eve: THE SWORD w/ Mammoth Grinder,
Eagle Claw - 9pm // Smoke and Feathers, Tornhado - 12am
FREE WEEK 1/1-1/9
Sa 1/1 - The Laughing, Til We're Blue or Destroy, Butcher Bear &
Charlie (out - 9pm) // Watch out for Rockets,
The White White Lights, Lean Hounds, Hundred Visions (in) - 10pm
Su 1/2 - Amplified Heat, Hi-Tones, The Boxing Lesson,
Black Forest Fire (presented by Lucy The Poodle/Frenchie
Smith Records) (in) - 10pm
M 1/3 - Hatred Surge, Night Siege, Naw Dude,
Shitty Carwash (in) - 10pm
Tu 1/4 - One Hundred Flowers, Invisible Inks, Burgess Meredith,
Golden Beach (in) - 10pm



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for info on upcoming tours, check out www.transmissionentertainment.com

RED7

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Th 12/16 - CHRISTEENE, HUG, Wozyhelmet, Chainbow, PBR Kitten - 10pm
F 12/17 - Turbo Fruits, Pujol, Rayon Beach, Dikes of Holland - 10pm
Sa 12/18 - Christmas A Go Go w/ Johnny Hootrock, Hotrod Hillbillies,
Carpet Creeps, Burlesque by Black Widow Jigglewatts - 10pm
Su 12/19 - FREE! Trae's Birthday with Krum Bums, Deadly Reign,
The Anchor, Asahara// FREE! Guest Bartenders and DJs THE
RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS
Tu 12/21 - FREE: The Ceos, Coppola - 10pm
Th 12/23 - FREE: FESTIVUS celebration: Jawbreaker
Sing-a-long, Punk Rock Karaoke and more!
12/24-25 - CLOSED FOR FESTIVUS
Tu 12/28 - FREE: Blotter, 2 Buck Drunks, Burning Avalanche - 10pm
W 12/29 - Kniflight, This Party's Lame - 10pm
F 12/31 - New Year's Eve: THE ADOLESCENTS w/ Lower Class
Brats, Ghost Knife, Altercation Punk Comedy Tour - 10pm
FREE WEEK 1/1-1/9
Sa 1/1 - OUT: Car Stereo Wars, Parking, Gobi, Castle Nova - 10pm
IN: Yuppie Pricks, The Distant Seconds, Mistress Stephanie and
Her Melodic Cat, Jesus Christ Superfly, Blowhole (in)
Su 1/2 - Gods Are Ghosts, White Rhino, Lights Go Out, Blowhole,
Sheer Kahn - 10pm
M 1/3 - Zest of Yore, Bike Problems, Distance Runner, tba - 10pm
Tu 1/4 - Crew 54, Riders Against the Storm, Kill City, The Means - 10pm
W 1/5 - OUT: The Gary, The Artificial Heart, The Midgetmen,
Beautiful Supermachines, Blue Kabuki - 10pm
IN: DJ Richard Henry

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www.red7austin.com

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LIVE MUSIC

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

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AUSTIN'S GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

GIRL GUITAR 6-7PM \$5 COVER

JACK BREWER 7:30PM

FRIGID COATS 9PM

TBA 10:30-11:30PM

SAT, DECEMBER 18

\$5 COVER

**BAND AID SCHOOL
OF MUSIC** 4-6PM

DAD JIM 6:30PM

GRUB DOG &

THE MODESTOS 6:30PM

IZZY COX 8:30PM

WHISKEY SHIVERS 9:30PM

TBA 10:30-11:30PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

GIRL GUITAR NO COVER!

HOLIDAY SHOWCASE! 6-8PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

CLOSED

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

BILLIARDS, HAPPY HOUR AND FOOD

SPECIALS ALL NIGHT 4-10 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

TEX THOMAS NO COVER!

& THE DANGLING WRANGLERS 6-8PM

CHRIS RUEST BAND 8:30-10PM

HAPPY HOUR

TUE-FRI 4-7PM / ALL DAY SUN 4pm-CLOSE

\$2.50 all beers / \$2 well drinks

\$3 house margs / 1/2 price apps

SIN TUESDAYS 4pm-CLOSE

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FATBACK CIRCUS
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FRIDAY DECEMBER 17 *REGGAE/DANCEHALL* DOORS 8:00
JAH MIGHTY
{RING THE ALARM}
NO COVER BEFORE 11
REGGAE DANCE PARTY!

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18 *SOUL/R&B/HIP HOP* DOORS 9:00
MELODY MEMORY
D-MADNESS
GRAVITY FEED

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22 *REGGAE* DOORS 8:00
NO COVER! NO COVER! NO COVER!
DREADNECK WEDNESDAY!
THE MAU MAU CHAPLAINS
UPCOMING SHOWS

12.23-12.28: CLOSED: MERRY CHRISTMAS!
12.30: MIKE MARTIN & THE HIGHER HEIGHTS BAND
12.31: NYE REGGAE BALL WITH THE MAU MAU CHAPLAINS!
VISIT US AT WWW.FLAMINGOCANTINA.COM

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THE GHOST ROOM

Thursday Dec 16th 8pm
Distance Runner
MINI MANSIONS
End Wave
Will Cope & The Bastards

Friday Dec 17th 8:30pm
SAN SABA COUNTY
Luke Wade & No Civilians
Wiretree

Saturday Dec 18th 7:30pm
The Murdocks
THROUGH THE TREES
Excited States
Antic Romantics

Upcoming Shows
12/31 - Kiss It!
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CLYDE & CLEM'S WHISKEY BUSINESS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 9PM
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THE JOLLY BALL FEAT.
THE ROCKETBOYS
DJ CHORIZO FUNK
THE SOUTHERN SIRENS
BAD SANTA! SNOW MACHINE!
PHOTO BOOTH!
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 9PM

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SATURDAY DECEMBER 18TH 2010
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VOLVIII: BLUES XMAS EDITION
BENEFITING LOCAL CHARITIES
FEATURING LIVE SETS BY
MUDPHONIC
GREYHOUNDS
SPECIAL GUESTS
BLUE SANTA DJ SET BY
DJ ORION
LIVE ART BY B&B STRANGE
RECORD FAIR BY FRIENDS OF SOUND
VISUALS BY VJ MASTERSWITCH
EARLY SHOW
LIVE MUSIC AT 10PM

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DJ RICHARD HENRY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21 9PM
SCRABBLE ROBOT
WE KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE
THE TEMPO TANTRUMS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22 9PM
WHALERS • ST. CLOUD
R. FATHER & THE DASHING BASTARDS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29 8PM
THE VERSATILE SYNDICATE
BAH! HUMBUG! BASH FEAT.
JESSE "CADGE" MOORE
CHRIS "BLUE" MONGEON
BLAKE BERNSTEIN
BEN BALLINGER
MRS. GLASS
RYAN ROONEY
DAL BEACH & MORE!
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 8PM
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THE SUGARFOOT FAMILY
ALL-STARS
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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM MONDAY

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
A Is Red, Bruce James
Soultet (9:00); In the Club:
Continental Graffiti (6:30),
Dale Watson (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris
Kimura Quartet (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Jam w/
Freddie Mendoza (9:30)
EVANGELINE CAFE Charles
Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun
Aces (6:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Amy
Annelle (8:00)
FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (9:30)
GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (6:00)
THE HIGHBALL Republic of Texas
Big Band (8:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Mike & the
Moonpies ♪, Jonathan Terrell
(10:00)
HOUSE WINE Singer-Songwriter
Open Mic w/ Scott Andrews
(8:00)
LA PALAPA Baby Dallas
LUCKY LOUNGE Austin Alvarez
(9:00)
MINGS CAFE Suzanna Choffel ♪
(8:00)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John
Wilson (8:00)
MUGSHOTS Acoustic Open Mic
(8:00)
PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo
Christmas Bazaar w/ The
Biscuit Brothers, Blazing Bows,
Sara Hickman, the Eggmen
(noon)
RED FEZ DJ Cauze-One & DJ Taco
(10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Mark Monaco
SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician ♪,
Bob Schneider, Jeff
Plankenhorn
SOUTH FIRST FOOD COURT Open
Mic w/ Frankie Hernandez
(7:00) ♪
SPEAKEASY She's Knott Grimey
(10:00)
III FORKS Bruce James (6:00)
TRIPLE CROWN The Kinfolk (6:00),
Electric Mayhem (9:00)
VICTORY GRILL Open Pro Blues Jam
w/ Matthew Robinson, Harold
McMillan (9:00)
VINO VINO Blue Monday w/ Mike
Flanigin (9:00)

TUE 21

ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE
Troubadillos (6:00)
ANTONE'S Christmas Show w/
the Hot (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time
Fiddlers Jam (7:30)
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The
Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne
Smith (7:00)
BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR
Birdlegg, Jo Hell & the Red
Roosters, Birdlegg, Catfish &
the Hushpuppies (8:00)
'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Weldon Henson
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Ray Tarantino,
Rare Birds in Flight, Jen
Standley Smith & Modern
Houses (7:00)
CEDAR STREET Mark Gibson (6:00),
the Initials (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Midnight River Choir (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Red
Young & Brannen Temple
(10:30); In the Club: Toni Price
(6:30); Family Harvest, Dax
Riggs (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station
Masters
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar:
Grand Hotel (8:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Scotty
B. (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith
w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Darin
Layne ♪ (9:30)
ELYSIUM Nineties Night w/ DJ
Boba Fett, DJ Minimus
EMO'S Wildshire, Twin Lights,
Tassels, Woolgather CD
Release
EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh
(6:00), Kevin Gallagher
(8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE
Dennis Ludiker (7:00), Erik
Hokkanen's Laboratory
(9:00)
FRIENDS Erin Jaimes (7:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
The Conclusion Jumpers w/
Bret Graham (9:00)
HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night
w/ Jon Burkland
HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL Jimi Lee
LA PALAPA Baby Dallas
LUCKY LOUNGE Dan Sir Dancer
(9:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Guns of Navarone
(7:30) ♪
MOHAWK Mike & the Moonpies ♪
(5:00); Nathan Singleton,
Jeremy Nail (9:00)
ONE 2 ONE BAR Karl Morgan,
Dahebegebees (8:00)
PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo
Christmas Bazaar w/ Patricia
Vonne, Suzanna Choffel ♪,
Marcia Ball, Ruthie Foster
(noon) ♪
PARADISE CAFE Rusty Trapps'
Midnight Ramble (8:00)
RED 7 Coppola, the CEOs
RED EYED FLY Ahmond, Slow Car
Crash, Friends City, the Kinder
Gardeners ♪
RED FEZ Bruce Smith (9:00)
RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music
Open Mic (6:00)
SAXON PUB Bruce Hughes, Kurt
BoDean, Tessa
THE SCOOT INN Tempo Tantrums,
We Know Where You Live,
Scrabble Robot ♪ (9:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Ember (9:00)
III FORKS Bruce James (6:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Eric Hisaw (6:00),
Folk Union Revue (9:00)
VICTORY GRILL East End Jazz Jam
(8:00)
VINO VINO Son y No Son (9:00)
Z'TEJAS Tameca Jones (6:00)

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

WED 22

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN
Mike Milligan & the
Altair Boyz
ANTONE'S Blues Christmas w/ the
Peterson Bros., Bill Carter, Will
Sexton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb,
Ian McLagan (8:00) ♪
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Brooke Avid
(10:00)
BEERLAND Holiday Food Drive w/
Dad Jim
BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Jamie
Krueger
BROKEN SPOKE T. Jarrod Bonta,
Dance Lessons, Dale Watson
(6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent
Finlay's Songwriters Circle
(9:00)
CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon
Blondell, Trube, Farrell &
Sniz (8:30); In the Club: Hot
Club of Cowtown (6:30);
Bordertown Bootleggers,
James McMurtry (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station
Masters
THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar:
Bruce Smith (8:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James
Speer (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs
(6:00), Dave Scher (9:30)
ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin
Spice, DJ Edminister
EVANGELINE CAFE Tommy Elskes
(7:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Mau Mau
Chaplainis (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Matt the
Electrician ♪, Southpaw Jones ♪
(8:00)
FRIENDS Swamp Sauce, J.T.
Coldfire
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Weldon Henson (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Kevin Welch, Dustin
Welch
HOLE IN THE WALL J. Wesley
Haynes, About: Blank (10:00)
JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Jess Klein,
Dennis Ludiker (8:00)
JOVITA'S Tex Thomas & the
Danglin' Wranglers, Chris
Ruest (6:00)
LA PALAPA Acoustic w/ James
LAMBERTS The Moonhangers
(7:00)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick
McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd
(6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE bMused (9:00)
MEAN-EYED CAT Deuce Coupe
(7:30)
MY PLACE BAR & GRILL My Place
Trio (7:30)
ONE 2 ONE BAR Big Circle, TX; Dan
K. (8:30)
PALMER EVENTS CENTER Armadillo
Christmas Bazaar w/
Deadman, Albert & Gage,
Asleep at the Wheel (noon)
PLUSH Weight w/ the Herd
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Open
Mic w/ Mark Allen Atwood
QUALITY SEAFOOD MARKET Calico
Jazz Trio (6:30)
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly"
Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED EYED FLY Lauren Turner, AM
Meltdown, the Next Day, Venus
Fixer
RED FEZ Atash ♪ (10:00)

MUSICIANS

GUITAR Rock/Metal Guitarist available. If interested see website @ www.bradywymond.net

VOICE Vocalist looking for aggressive (metal) band. Former vocalist for RISE thy RUIN with 12 years of metal(not melodic) vocal experience. I own a descent amount of gear(pedals, synths, mics ect...). Influences include: Converge, ISIS, ZAO, Refused, Between the Buried and ME, Dillinger Escape Plan, Neurosis.... zachkorg@gmail.com

BASS ist needed.... Hear music at www.hazedoggie.com Click the album Billion Dollar Rocket - Boom! Contact C.V. @ 512-484-3161

BASS and Vocals needed for metal band in Austin. Pro gear and positive attitude a must. The music is real specific so SERIOUS inquiries only. Influences include bands like Mnemic, Meshuggah, After The Burial, Fell Silent. Email me at jessjr832@att.net

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GUITAR Austin metal band seeking second guitarist and a vocalist. Here's the run down: We used to be a band called REND, we are all in our 30's, have very professional gear and take pride in our music. Check out our older stuff at myspace.com/rendmetal

GUITAR Contact Rocco at rcclsldg@icqmail.com or call (512) 577-1076

OTHER Percussion; washboard, cajon, trap set, etc. Utility person; mandolin, banjo, fiddle or anything that'll work with what we're doing. Bass; upright or acoustic would be cool, electric is fine. We need open minded musicians who aren't afraid to do things off the cuff. Check out our music from our new album on our website, and if interested send email for more details. www.thetexasduet.com

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JESS KLEIN 8
SIS DEVILLE
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MEGAN HEAVIN OCHOA 11:30 SAYONARA 12:45

FRIDAY DECEMBER 17 DOORS 8 \$10
JOE MOODY 6:30
LUNA MATTO 7:45
BLOODY STILETTO 9
JOSH WEATHERS
& THE TRUE ENDEAVORS 10:30
SOUL TRACK MIND 12

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18 \$10
ROCK CAMP USA 1 PM
THE BUDDY QUAID BAND 8
ETHAN KENNEDY 9
DAN DYER BAND 10
THE NEW TIMER 12

SUNDAY DECEMBER 19 \$7
DAN DYER (SOLO) 7
AUSTIN HAYES & AUTUMN BOUKADAKIS 8:30
CHRISTY HAYS & HER SUNDAY BEST 10
THE WHISTLE PIGS 12
MONDAY DECEMBER 20 \$5
RANDY MARTINEZ NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15
PAULA HELD 6:30
MILK DRIVE 8
MIRANDA DAWN & THE LUCKY BREAK HORNS 9:15
ALEXA JAMES 12

TUESDAY DECEMBER 21 \$7 / \$5 W/ STUDENT ID
DANIEL CLOPER NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15
JOMEL SUMIRA 6:30
10:30 WORLD MUSIC NIGHT
BENEFITS THE CIPHER
MAURICIO CALLETAS 7:45
VANESSA LIVELY 9
THE BATIKUM 10:30

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22 \$5
SAVANNAH BLUE NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15
CARL HUTSON & GOOD COMPANY 6:30
TJM SONGWRITER SERIES: 7:45
COLIN COLBY & BEN WORLEY
TREVOR BOEHM & THE CULTIVATORS 10
THE BLACK OWL SOCIETY 12
UPCOMING SHOWS

The **COVERTERS**
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16
INSIDE: **ROCKBUSTERS**
BABY DICK • BULEMICS • EL PATHOS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

PRESENTED BY TANGLED SNARK
INSIDE, DOORS @ 8PM: **UME • RINGO DEATHSTARR**
SUNDRESS (FR. DENTON)
FOLLOW THAT BIRD! • SCHMILLION
Snake Skin Prison
POWDERBURN • CINDER CELL
EPIC • BLOOD FOR MASTER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
OUTSIDE: ANDY DICK'S STOCKING
STUFFER MUSIC AND COMEDY SHOW
ANDY DICK & THE BITCHES
OF THE CENTURY
TRASHY AND THE KID • ONE-EYED DOLL
LUCAS DICK • ALTERCATION COMEDY'S IT HABERSAAT
MACK LYND SAY • WHISKEY DICK
INSIDE: **DEAD END CRUISERS**
BROKEN GOLD • JENSEN EYES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19
INSIDE, DOORS @ 8PM: **AVIANA**
BONNIE BLUE • FOR EVERY EMPIRE
PART THE SEAS EMPTY THE SKIES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20
ASL SWINGERS BATTING CAGE 5-10PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21
INSIDE: **WOOLGATHER** (CD RELEASE)
TASSELLS • TWINLIGHTS • WILD SHIRE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23
INSIDE: **FLASH BOYS • NEGATIVES**
THE STRANGE ATTRACTORS • TEMPO TANTRUMS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

ASL SWINGERS BATTING CAGE 5-10PM
INSIDE: **ALIENS • DISTANCE RUNNER**
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

INSIDE: **RAD BROMANCE**
(ALL MALE LADY GAGA TRIBUTE BAND)
KNIGHT • ODE TO OSCILLATOR
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

OUTSIDE: **100 MONKEYS • KISSING CLUB**
INSIDE: **NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW**
WHITE DENIM • DRIZZTIAN
SWAMPER • JOHN WESELY COLEMAN

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 1
INSIDE: **CROOKS • MONARCHS**
WESTERN GHOST HOUSE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2
INSIDE: **THE BLIND PETS**
JESUS CHRIST SUPERFLY AND MORE TBA
OUTSIDE: **SET AFLAME • LIONS OF TSAVO**
FALSETTA • THE BRIGADE

MONDAY, JANUARY 3
INSIDE: **WILD AMERICA** (FINAL SHOW)
TENEMENT (APPLETON, WI)
WOMEN IN PRISON • UPPERS
SERIOUS TRACERS
OUTSIDE: **PACK OF WOLVES**
EAGLE CLAW • TIA CARRERA • SCORPION CHILD
HIGH WATT CRUCIFIXERS • BLACK EARTH

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4
INSIDE: **WOODGRAIN**
WE'LL GO MACHETTE • WATCHING THE MOON
COME AND TAKE IT • HALF MILE FOX FUR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5
OUTSIDE: **QUIET COMPANY**
THE BOXING LESSON • SMOKE & FEATHERS
MY EDUCATION • RED LEAVES
INSIDE: **A GIANT DOG**
SHAPES HAVE FANGS • ELVIS
RAYON BEACH • FLESHLIGHTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6
OUTSIDE: **RINGO DEATHSTARR**
THE CARROTS • THE UGLY BEATS • HI-TONES

INSIDE: **UME • MISSIONS**
SPELLS • SILENT DIANE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

OUTSIDE: SOUNDCHECK PRESENTS
WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS
THE LEMURS
OVEN BIRDS • SALESMAN • THE AUTHORS
INSIDE: **LOS SKARNALES**
NICK CURRAN & THE LOWLIFES
JUNGLE ROCKERS • EL PATHOS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8
OUTSIDE: **CRACK PIPES** • SPECIAL GUESTS
OBN III'S • THE STUFFIES • HATCHET WOUND
INSIDE: **THE CHUMPS • MOTARDS**
ZERO SKILLS • BABY DICK • HOT CRUSH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9
INSIDE: **THE INFLUENCE**
LORD OF THE FLY • ROBERT FORTUNE BAND

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AUTUMN'S
30TH BIRTHDAY
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JEFF AND THE JUMPTONES
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MATT KING
10PM \$5
SATURDAY 12/18
PHILIP GIBBS
8PM \$5
SIDESHOW FIVE
10PM \$5
SUNDAY 12/19 : 8pm
TED HALL'S BLUES
CHURCH JAM
WEDNESDAY 12/22
JESS KLEIN
8PM \$5
DENNIS LUDIKER'S
BLUEGRASS JAM
10-Midnight \$5
NEW YEAR'S EVE
FRIDAY 12/31
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Amy Daly the Translesbian - 12/13
Riley Steele Strip For Me - 12/14
Sprint - 12/14
Gulp - 12/14
Drenched in Love - 12/15
Tokyo Cream Puffs 7 - 12/20
Gangland 76 - 12/20
Internal Injections 2 - 12/20
Teenage Wasteland 2 - 12/20
KaydenKross Girl Talk - 12/21
Craving Cougars - 12/21
Strip and Search - 12/21
Joanna Angel's Summer Vacation - 12/22
Wicked Digital Mag 1 - 12/22
Tiny Titty Chicas 3 - 12/23
Ladyboy Longlegs - 12/27
Double Vision - 12/28
Nikki Benz - Superstar - 12/28
Asian Boobs - 12/28
Barely Legal POV 9 - 12/28
She-Male Superstars 2 - 12/28
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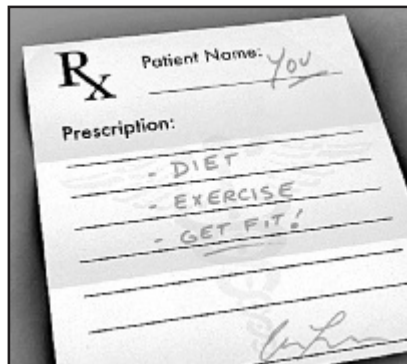
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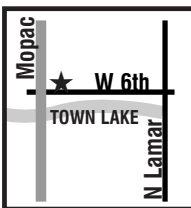
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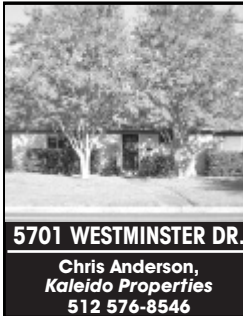
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- Recognize the scope of massage therapy and refer to other health care professionals when appropriate for the client's/patient's health and well-being.
- Administer all treatments in a professional manner with respect for client-patient confidentiality, boundaries, safety and privacy.
- Maintain honest and accurate records, a clean and professional work environment, and high standards of personal hygiene.
- Respect the client's/patient's right to continue, modify, or discontinue massage therapy at any time, and respect the integrity of each person by avoiding any sexual conduct or activities involving their clients/patients.
- Respect all ethical health care practitioners and work together amicably to promote health and natural healing.
- Invest in their communities by fostering an understanding and acceptance of massage therapy as a valuable health service, abiding by all laws governing the practice of massage, and working for the repeal of revision laws detrimental to the legitimate practice of massage.

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VEGTRAVEL WORKSHOP
What: Vegan and Vegetarian Travel Workshop Where: REI-Downtown (6th and Lamar) When: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 7:00-9:00pm Who: Hostelling International (www.hiaustin.org) and Vegan Traveler Extraordinaire, Christen Andrews (<http://circleourearth.com/vegan-travel/>) Sure it takes a little extra effort - but traveling as a vegetarian or vegan is not as tough as many people think. Join us at REI- Downtown, and you can learn how to travel the world as a vegan, and never feel like you are malnourished or missing out on some key cultural experiences. In fact, it can be quite the opposite. If you're open to tasting new and interesting foods, you'll be amazed at the variety of exciting things you'll get to try when traveling. This vegetarian travel class will teach travelers how it is completely possible to stick to your vegetarian belief system and enjoy the local cuisine anywhere you go. Questions? Email us at [programs\(at\)hiaustin\(doborg\)](mailto:programs(at)hiaustin(doborg)), or call us at 512.444.2294

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events

TWO DOLLAR SHOW 2
Shows presents a New Year's Eve Eve Celebration! Event Details: Benefitting the Town Lake Animal Center United States Art Authority Thursday December 30th, 2010 Doors at 7:00pm There will be a raffle, live spray paint, hand massages and hair designs by the Paul Mitchell School and FOOD! MC: Michael Foulk Music: DJ Polymymina 8:00pm William Wallace 9:00pm

Tucker James and the Hot Mugs 10:00pm The Tiny Tin Hearts 11:00pm Broken Harps Artists: Teya Nichole Murrell Nicolas Nadeau Alexis Sachs Alexandra Rowland Aden Simonelli Austin Cashell Mike Swartz Robert Jaymz Gabriel Contreras Inne Aguilar Jessica Rosuella Shane & Nate Sugoy Clothing The New Movement Paul Mitchell School-Hand/Hair Tavis Stephen Condon Catering: Austin 360 Catering

general

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lost & found

LOST CAT Reward for orange cat with white markings. Short hair, medium size, 1 1/2 yrs old. Has white underbelly, 4 paws are tipped white. May be wearing a red collar with tag. Has micro chip. Lost in the Legend Oaks community, Oak Hill area, Dec 9th morn. Contact at 568-5140/568-5146.

LOST PARROT \$500 Reward for safe return of our parrot. African Grey Parrot flew from 14th story of the 360 condos between 3rd and 4th on Nueces Street close to midnight on November 11. The bird is mostly grey with a scarlet red tail. He eats grains and fruit, and he is tame. His name is Domino, Mino for short. He speaks both English and Chinese. If found please call Will at (512) 947-9455 or Jessica at (512) 775-0788.

legal notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-07-006444 To: OSCAR B MARTINEZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 98TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the

Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF CHILD OF ZULMA MITALIA RICO Petitioner(s), filed in said court on MAY 6, 2010, against OSCAR B. MARTINEZ Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF IZAK MARTINEZ A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request

ORIGINAL PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF CHILD
The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:
IZAK MARTINEZ
APRIL 26, 2001
UNKNOWN PLACE OF BIRTH

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 09, 2010.
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ IRENE SILVA, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
ZULMA MITALIA RICO
12504 MEXICANA COVE
DEL VALLE, TEXAS 78617

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM MCCARTHY Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-000863 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
BERLICE LANE and BRAD LANE The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on August 12, 2010, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said WILLIAM MCCARTHY, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on November 15, 2010.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ MONICA LIMON

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED

IN THE ESTATE OF MARK ALAN GAJER Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-001122 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

MARGARET C GAJER and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on July 09, 2010, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said MARK ALAN GAJER, Deceased, and their respective shares and interested in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on November 23, 2010.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ MONICA LIMON

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-09-002024 To: ARTURO MACEDO ARROYO and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE filed in said court on SEPTEMBER 2, 2009, and said suit being number D-1-FM-09-002024 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF MAYRA ORTIZ and ARTURO MACEDO ARROYO, ET AL CHILDREN, and In the Interest of ARTURO MACEDO-DIAZ, AND STEPHANIE MACEDO-ORTIZ, CHILD".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and posses-

sory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD'S interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD'S adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 23, 2010.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ SHERRY HAZRATI, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:

RUBEN I BARRERA
606 W OLTORF
AUSTIN, TX 78704
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 445-2054
FAX: (512) 445-4985

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF HILARY JANE FERGUSON Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-002012 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

BARBARA ANN DAYWOOD The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on December 10, 2010, an Application to Determine Heirship & Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said HILARY JANE FERGUSON, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 10, 2010.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ MONICA LIMON

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsný for Dec. 17-23

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): My favorite news source, *The Onion*, reported on a proposed law that would prohibit marriage between any two people who don't actually love each other (onion.com/LoveLaw). Couples whose unions are rooted in mutual antipathy or indifference are of course protesting the plan, insisting that they have as much of a right to wed as those who care for each other deeply and treat each other tenderly. Whether or not this proposal becomes a formal part of the legal system, Sagittarius, I urge you to embrace it. In fact, I'll go so far as to ask you not to do *anything* at *all* unless you are at least somewhat motivated by love. The coming months will be a time when your success will depend on your ability to rise to new heights of compassion, romance, eros, tenderness, empathy, and affection.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let's imagine we're fifth century monks living in the land that today is known as the south of France. And let's say we decide we're going to build a chapel in a place that has long been a pagan shrine dedicated to the moon goddess Selene. Shouldn't we consider the possibility that our new house of worship may be imbued with the vibes of the previous sanctuary? Won't our own spiritual aspirations be colored by those of the people who for hundreds of years poured forth their devotions? Now shift your attention to the present day, and apply our little thought experiment to what's going on in your life. Tune in to the influences that may be conditioning the new thing you'd like to create.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I would like to steal your angst, Aquarius. I fantasize about sneaking into your room tonight, plucking your nightmares right out of the heavy air, and spiriting them away. I imagine sidling up to you on a crowded street and pickpocketing your bitterness and frustration – maybe even pilfering your doubts, too. I wouldn't keep any of these ill-gotten goods for myself, of course. I wouldn't try to profit from them in any way. Instead, I would donate them to the yawning abyss, offer them up to the stormy ocean, or feed them to a bonfire on a primal beach. PS: Even though I can't personally accomplish these things, there is now a force loose in your life that can. Are you willing to be robbed of things you don't need?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In 2011, I bet that memory won't play as big a role in your life as it has up until now. I don't mean to say that you will neglect or forget about the past. Rather, I expect that you will be less hemmed in by the consequences of what happened way back when. You'll be able to work around and maybe even transcend the limitations that the old days and the old ways used to impose on you. Your free will? It will be freer than maybe it has ever been. Your creative powers will override the inertia of how things have always been done.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I vividly remember seeing singer Diamanda Galás in concert. Though classically trained, she didn't confine herself to mellifluous melodies and elegant tones. She was a whirlwind of elemental sound, veering from animalistic bellows to otherworldly chants to operatic glossolalia. It was all very entertaining and often enjoyable. The skill with which she shaped the sound as it escaped her body was prodigious. My companion and I agreed that "she made your ears convulse and your eyes writhe and your skin prickle – but in a good way." How would you feel about inviting some similar experiences into your life, Aries? The astrological omens suggest this would be an excellent time to seek the rowdy healing that only disciplined wildness can provide.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Here's a haikulike poem by Cor van den Heuvel: "the little girl/ hangs all the ornaments/on the nearest branch." My comment: It's cute that the girl crams all the decorations onto one small section of the tree, and maybe her parents will keep them that way. But I recommend that you take a different approach as you work to beautify and enliven your environment. Spread out your offerings; distribute your blessings equally; make sure that everything in need of invigoration gets what it requires.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): This is a good time to go in search of any secrets you've been hiding from yourself. I suggest you also try to track down the "missing links" that aren't really missing but rather are neglected. My advice is similar for the supposedly "lost treasure" you're wondering about: Clues about its whereabouts are lying around in full view for anyone who is innocent enough to see them. PS: Being uncomplicated isn't normally your strong suit, but this is one of those rare times when you'll have an aptitude for it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In the TV comedy series *Arrested Development*, Buster Bluth is an adult character who is a bit overattached to his mother. It seemed to have to do with the fact that he lingered in her womb for 11 months before agreeing to be born. The obstetrician claimed "there were claw marks on her uterus." I want to be sure you don't make a comparable misstep in the coming weeks, Cancerian. It really is time for you to come out and play. Ready or not, leave your protective sanctuary and leap into the jangly, enchanting tumult.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): I have imaginary friends who help me. And yes, they sometimes even give me ideas for your horoscopes. Are you OK with that? Among the many other perks my secret buddies provide, they show me where my cell phone and car keys are when I've misplaced them – a prime sign of their practical value. What's your current status in regard to imaginary friends, Leo? Do you even have any? This would be an excellent time to seek them out and put them to work. In fact, I encourage you to do anything that might attract the input of undiscovered allies, behind-the-scenes collaborators, mysterious guidance, and divine assistance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Might there be a message for you in the mist on the window? Can you find a clue to the next phase of your destiny by scanning a newspaper that the wind blows against your leg as you're walking? Be alert for the undertones, Virgo. Tune in to the subtexts. Scan the peripheries for the future as it reveals itself a little early. You never know when the hidden world might be trying to slip you a tip. You should be alert for the deeper storylines weaving themselves just below the level where the supposedly main plot is unfolding.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A musician who records under the name of Shamantis took Justin Bieber's silly pop tune "U Smile," and slowed it down 800%. The new work was a 35-minute epic masterpiece of ambient electronica that *The New York Times* praised as "ghostly" and "oceanic." More than 2 million people tuned in to hear it on the Internet. Might there be a comparable transformation in your future, Libra? From an astrological perspective, it's prime time for you to transform a pedestrian exercise into a transcendent excursion or a trivial diversion into an elegant inspiration or a meaningless entertainment into a sublime learning opportunity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): More than a few wildlife films use deception to fool the audiences into thinking they're watching animals in the wild. So says Chris Palmer, a producer of many such films. "One classic trick involves hiding jellybeans in carcasses," he told *New Scientist*. "If you see a bear feeding on a dead elk in a film, you can be pretty sure that the bear was hired from a game farm and is looking for sweets hidden in the carcass by the film-makers." I suspect you will encounter a metaphorically comparable ruse or switcheroo sometime soon, Scorpio. It'll be your job to be an enforcer of authenticity. Be on the lookout for the jellybeans.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsný's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

car talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

AVOID HYDROPLANING

Dear Tom and Ray:

We recently bought a 2005 Volkswagen Beetle and love it. Our one concern is its tendency to hydroplane in the rain. Is there any way to install an aftermarket stability control? In 2005, the electronic stability control was not a feature on the Beetle. If not, what can we do to help reduce the tendency to hydroplane, in addition to slowing down? Thanks, guys.

RAY: Slow down some more.

TOM: There's no way to install an aftermarket stability control system that we know of. Nor would it prevent hydroplaning. But there are several things you can try, Ted.

RAY: Hydroplaning occurs when so much water collects in front of your tires that it creates a wedge of water and your tires ride up on the wedge of water and temporarily leave the road.

TOM: It's most likely to happen when you drive into a large puddle at a fairly high speed. And, as I'm sure you can attest, Ted, it causes a loss of control. Not only of the car, but sometimes of your bodily functions. It's scary!

RAY: Normally, hydroplaning is prevented by the tread design of your tires. The tread contains grooves that channel the water through the tire, leaving the surface of the tread firmly on the road.

TOM: So one possibility is that you simply don't have enough tread left. If your tires are old and worn down and the channels aren't deep enough, you won't be able to move water through the tires quickly enough and you'll hydroplane.

RAY: Hydroplaning also can be caused by worn-out shocks that aren't doing their job of keeping the tires pressed down against the roadway. That makes it easier for water to push the tires off the road surface.

TOM: And if your tires and shocks haven't been changed since 2005, either or both could be the culprit now. So have your mechanic take a look and give you his opinion on both your shocks and your tires.

RAY: For most people who drive at reasonable speeds with good tires and shocks, hydroplaning is a rare event. But if you live in a place that gets regular flash floods or where there's particularly poor drainage, you might consider buying tires that are specially designed for their resistance to hydroplaning. Two that we know of are the Michelin HydroEdge and the Goodyear Assurance TripleTred.

TOM: And, like we said, slowing down helps a lot, especially when it rains, Ted.

Changing your oil regularly is the cheapest insurance you can buy for your car, but how often should you change it? Find out by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website, www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to *Car Talk* each Saturday at 9am on



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continued legal notices

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-08-

005737 To: CHRISTOPHER PAUL SOSA and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR POSTDIVORCE DIVISION OF PROPERTY OF LATASHA CHAVONNE SOSA Petitioner(s), filed in said court on DECEMBER 02, 2010, against CHRISTOPHER PAUL SOSA Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-08-005737 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF LATASHA CHAVONNE SOSA and CHRISTOPHER PAUL SOSA, the nature of which suit is a request ORIGINAL PETITIONER FOR POSTDIVORCE DIVISION OF PROPERTY

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 02, 2010.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ NIKI MITCHELL, Deputy

REQUESTED BY:
LATASHA CHAVONNE SOSA
7720 O'Connor Dr., #3413
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS 78681

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ERASMO GAMEZ RODRIGUEZ Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-001390 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. DAVID G. BALMER, The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on DECEMBER 3, 2010, a First Amended Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ERASMO GAMEZ RODRIGUEZ, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cit-

ed to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on DECEMBER 3, 2010. Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325 By Deputy: /s/ ROXANNE TORREZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-10-006519 To: THOMAS MARK WEBB and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 353RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF A CHILD of RENEE EDWARDS Petitioner(s), filed in said court on DECEMBER 1, 2010, against THOMAS WEBB Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF HAYLEY ALEXANDRIA ROSE WEBB, A CHILD," the nature of which suit is a request FOR CHANGE OF NAME.

The Name, Birth Date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:

HAYLEY ALEXANDRIA ROSE WEBB

MARCH 25, 1993

WICHITA, KANSAS

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 01, 2010.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ COURTNEY MOREAU, Deputy

REQUESTED BY:
RENEE DIANE EDWARDS
1117 HOLLY BLUFF STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78753

D-1-GV-09-001644

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 15th day of November, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-001644, wherein Lago Vista Independent School District, City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent

School District County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and ROBERT SUMMERS, JR. AND CAROLE M. SUMMERS are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$23,994.73** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 30, 2010.

I, on the 23rd day of November, 2010, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 4th day of January, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

LOT 9016, HIGHLAND LAKE ESTATE, SECTION NINE, PLAT VOL. 51, PAGE 78, AS DESC. IN VOL. 6993, PAGE 1073 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$23,994.73** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 23rd day of November, 2010.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-403670

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 17th day of November, 2010 in a certain cause numbered GV-403670, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and The Unknown Heirs and/or Devises of Willie B. Hardison, Deceased, Gloria Johnson, Independent Executor of the Estate of Oscar Hardison, Sr., Gloria Johnson (Life Estate), Julia Ann Allen (Remainderman), Oscar Hardison, Jr. (Remainderman), Cora Lee Jackson a/k/a Cory Lou Jackson (Remainderman), Esther Lee Ertie a/k/a Esther Hardison Urdy, (Remainderman), Eslee-an Early (Remainderman), Gladys Williams (Remainderman), Jack Hardison (Remainderman), Jill Thomas (Remainderman), and James Moore Properties, LLC and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$25,628.30** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of

judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 1, 2010.

I, on the 23rd day of November, 2010, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 4th day of January, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 6, Block 8, McKinley Heights Addition (Olt. 26, Div. B), Plat No. 4/110, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 5154, Page 2069 and Probate Cause No. 75,965 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$25,628.30** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 23rd day of November, 2010.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

NO. C-1-PB-10-001179

IN THE ESTATE OF JANE R. DONOVAN, DECEASED PROBATE COURT NO. 1

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

PROBATE NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JANE R. DONOVAN Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JANE R. DONOVAN were issued on the 6th day of December, 2010 in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001179 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas to: STEPHEN DONOVAN

STEPHEN DONOVAN's mailing address is:
Stephen Donovan

4004 Eton Ln.

Austin, TX 78727

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

STEPHEN DONOVAN

By: /s/ Jerry Frank Jones,

Attorney

State Bar No. 10913000

400 W. 15th St., Suite 975

Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: (512) 476-2929

Fax: (512) 472-3669

NO. C-1-PB-10-001785

ESTATE OF TINA C.

SNYDER, DECEASED

IN PROBATE COURT NO. 1

OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On December 2, 2010 Letters

Testamentary for the captioned Estate were issued to and are now held by MARCUS PERRY SNYDER as Sole Independent Executor.

All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present their claims to MARCUS PERRY SNYDER, as Sole Independent Executor, at the address shown below, within the time prescribed by law.

The address to which claims may be presented is:

MARCUS PERRY SNYDER

c/o Bernard E. Jones

Attorney at Law

3555 Timmons Lane,

Suite 1020

Houston, Texas 77027-6426

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Bernard E. Jones

State Bar No.: 10859710

3555 Timmons Lane,

Suite 1020

Houston, Texas 77027-6426

Telephone: (713) 621-3330

Telecopier: (832) 201-9219

ATTORNEY FOR THE EXECUTOR

NOTICE OF ABANDONED

VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 72 days.

Garagekeeper:

A&A WRECKER AND

RECOVERY, LLC

2963 MANOR ROAD

AUSTIN, TX 78722

PH: (512) 670-7578

1. 1993 Chevrolet/Z71 White LP: 4N41030(CA) V.I.N.#: 1GCEK14K8PZ101262

NOTICE OF ABANDONED

VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle will be auctioned off by Customz Wrecker Services, 16400 Terrace Dr, Austin, TX 78728 unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1999 Oldsmobile

MA 23WD94

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC

REGULATIONS Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation: **SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT ON GATTIS SCHOOL ROAD IN TWO.** Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC

AUCTION SALE

Redeemed Property

January 6, 2011

10:00 am

1406 Meadows Drive,

Round Rock, TX 78681

Under the authority of section 7506 of the Internal Revenue Code, the property described below will be sold at public sale on an open occupancy basis. The United States redeemed this property under the provisions of section 7425 of the Internal Revenue Code Section 2410 Title 28, United States Code on October 25, 2010. The property was deeded to the United States on October 26, 2010. The sale will be by a public auction to be held on:

Date: January 06, 2011

Time: 10:00 a.m. Bidder registration begins at 930 a.m.; at

Place: 1406 Meadows Drive,

Round Rock, TX 78681

Legal Description: Old Town Meadows, Block C, lot 25, recorded in Volume 2010048032; cross reference R-16-4930-000C-0025, Williamson Central Appraisal District, Georgetown, Texas.

Street address: 1406 Meadows Drive, Round Rock, TX 78681

Property may be inspected during the open house only. Open house will be on December 3, 2010, December 14, 2010 and December 15, 2010 - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm each day. Open house dates and times subject to change, please call 214-422-7386 to confirm.

Opening bid for the property is \$58,000.00.

The Terms of Payment: When the highest bid is tentatively accepted, the highest bidder must deposit \$11,600.00 with the PALS. The balance of the purchase price must be paid in full no later than 30 calendar days after the highest bid is accepted.

The highest bidder must deposit \$11,600.00 within two hours from the conclusion of the sale. The balance of the purchase price is due and must be paid no later than February 5, 2011.

Payment of all required deposits and the balance of the purchase price must be made by certified, cashier's or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States. Payment may also be made by any United States postal, bank, express or telegraph money order. All checks and money orders should be made payable to the United States Treasury.

If the highest bidder defaults in payment of the bid price, and the property is not sold for at least the amount of the highest bid, the bidder's deposit will be retained pending final determination of the damages the Government sustained because of the bidder's default. If damages are more than the amount of the bidder's deposit, the bidder will be liable for excess damages.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw the property from the sale.

If you want additional information about the property and proposed sale, please contact the office at the address below.

Patricia Hall; Property Appraisal & Liquidation Specialist; Internal Revenue Service; 4050 Alpha Road MC 5105 NDAL, Farmers Branch, TX 75244; 214-422-7386; www.irsauctions.gov

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

U-STORE-IT hereby gives notice of Public Sale under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. This sale will be held on

January 4, 2011 beginning at 9:30 A.M. at the U-STORE-IT located at 610 E. Stansney Lane Austin, Texas. This sale will continue to each designated address location listed below after the completion of the beginning sale. This sale is being held to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. Everything sold is purchased "as is" "where is" for cash. U-STORE-IT reserves the right to set a minimum bid, refuse any bid, or to cancel any Public Sale that is advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials related to the sale.

U-Store-It #751

610 E. Stansney Lane

Austin, TX 78745

512-441-8300

Sarah Higginbotham, Unit 2147 - bags, boxes, mirror,

picture, suitcase, clothing, coat rack.

Linda Samilpa, Unit 2234 - headboard, boxes, clothing, dryer, lamps, refrigerator, shelves, table, washing machine, cabinets, luggage, camping gear, stove.

Galen Wadsworth, Unit 3160 - bicycle, boxes, fishing poles, shelves, sofa, stool, table, tote.

Bradley White, Unit 3211 - bed frame, boxes, chairs, shelf, sofa, tables, kids bed, tote.

U-Store-It #753

10025 Manchaca Rd

Austin, TX. 78748

512-292-1760

Chrystal Moreno, Unit 606 - Baby crib, bag, chairs, TV, tote.

David Strother, Unit 698 - bed frame, boxes, cabinet, shelves, crates, briefcases.

Jeffery Haines, Unit 700 - headboard, boxes, chairs, speakers.

Jeff Yanes, Unit 746 - bags, box spring, frame, mattress, boxes, cloths.

AUCTIONEER: KENNETH HIERHOLZER 6568

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

to be held at AusTex Towing & Recovery, LLC, 201 E. Braker Ln. Austin, TX 78753 on 12/17/10 at 9am. Call (512) 836-7443 for more information.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF HELEN EARLEEN PROPST FINCH

Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001515 styled Estate of Helen Earleen Propst Finch, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original Letters Testamentary were issued on the 9th day of December, 2010, to PATRICIA ANN FINCH (the "personal representative"). All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within the time prescribed by law, and before such estate is closed. The personal representative directs that claims be presented to said personal representative at the address shown below in care of the attorney for said representative.

PATRICIA ANN FINCH

c/o John Calhoun Miller

Attorney at Law

1509 Old West 38th Street #3
Austin, Texas 78731

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LOIS DELL BUCK, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration with Wills and Codicils Annexed in the Estate of Lois Dell Buck, Deceased, were issued on December 9, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001740 pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Rebecca Dell Buck a/k/a Rebecca Leonard, Independent Executor.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows:

Rebecca Leonard, Independent Administrator, Estate of Lois Dell Buck, Deceased
c/o Don Walden

7200 North Mopac, Suite 300
Austin, Texas 78731

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 9th day of December, 2010.

/s/ Don E. Walden

State Bar No. 20672800

7200 N. MoPac, Suite 300

Austin, Texas 78731

(512) 349-9595

(512) 795-8079 Fax

Attorney for Independent Administrator

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MILDRED HELEN STELZER HOLT, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary in the Estate of Mildred Helen Stelzer Holt, Deceased, were issued on December 1, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001387 pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Gayle Holt Snowden, Independent Executor.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows:

Gayle Holt Snowden, Independent Executor, Estate of Mildred Helen Stelzer Holt, Deceased

c/o Don Walden

7200 North Mopac, Suite 300
Austin, Texas 78731

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this 9th day of December, 2010.

/s/ Don E. Walden

State Bar No. 20672800

7200 N. MoPac, Suite 300

Austin, Texas 78731

(512) 349-9595

(512) 795-8079 Fax

Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROSE-MARIE LIBERTO MADDUX, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ROSEMARIE LIBERTO MADDUX, Deceased, were issued on December 9, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001725, pending in the Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas, to: BOBBIE JOYCE CAVINESS The residence address of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address of the Independent Executor is:

c/o Nelson M. Davidson, Jr.

Attorney at Law

P.O. Box 529, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated the 9th day of December, 2010. Nelson M. Davidson, Jr. Attorney at Law

/s/ Nelson M. Davidson, Jr.

Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LILLIE M. HICKS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lillie M. Hicks, Deceased, were issued on December 7, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001852, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to the estate's independent executor without bond, Mary Chipman, a/k/a Mary E. Chipman, a/k/a Liz Chipman All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time required by law. Claims should be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, Lawrence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78750. Dated this 7th day of December, 2010.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Taylor Woodrow Communities/Steiner Ranch, Ltd.

(OWNER) for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, and performing all work required for the construction of **Steiner Ranch Commercial Detention Pond - Access and Drainage Improvements** will be received at the office of: Texas Engineering Solutions at 5000 Bee Caves Road Suite 206, Austin, TX 78746 **until 2:00pm CST, January 13, 2011.** Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud. Any proposal received after the closing time will be returned unopened. Proposals shall be plainly marked with name and address of the BIDDER and the following words:

Proposal for Steiner Ranch Commercial Detention Pond Access and Drainage Improvements

The Commercial Detention Pond project at Steiner Ranch: Access and Drainage Improvements proposal includes approximately: 1,050 LF of right-of-way preparation; 450 LF of Class III RCP storm sewer with inlets, headwalls, manholes, and drainage appurtenances; 288 LF of Class III concrete box culverts with headwalls, manholes, and drainage appurtenances; temporary erosion controls, and all necessary appurtenances for the proposed access and drainage improvements. All work must conform to State of Texas, City of Austin, Travis County, and Water Control Improvement District Number 17 rules and criteria.

Bidding documents will be made available for review to bidders upon request. If hardcopies are desired, please request from Texas Engineering Solutions with minimum 24-hr advance notice required. Hardcopies of the documents may be obtained for a non-refundable fee of \$75 per set. Make checks for hardcopies payable to Texas Engineering Solutions.

A Cashier's Check, Certified Check or acceptable BIDDER's Bond, payable to Taylor Woodrow Communities/Steiner Ranch, Ltd. in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the Contract, the BIDDER will enter into a contract and execute bonds within ten (10) days of award of the Contract. Performance and Payment Bonds shall also be executed on the forms furnished by the OWNER and shall specifically provide for "Performance" and for "Labor and Materials Payment". Each bond shall be issued in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of contract price by a solvent Surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to the OWNER.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any and all technicalities and formalities in bidding. The OWNER reserves the right to determine which bids are lowest and best, and to award the Contract on this basis. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after opening of the bids. If a submitted bid is withdrawn within said period, bid guaranty shall become the property of the OWNER, not as penalty, but as liquidated damages, or OWNER may pursue any other action allowed by law. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on **January 4, 2011 at 1:30pm** at the Steiner Ranch Welcome Center located at 4304 N. Quinlan Park Road, Austin, Texas 78732. Prospective bidders are encouraged to visit the site to familiarize themselves with the site conditions and scope of work.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On

December 2, 2010, Edward I. Malewicz was issued letters testamentary for the Estate of Melanie Levy Malewicz, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001806 pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas. The address of the independent executor is c/o Claire D. East, Hopper & Associates, P.C., 400 W. 15th St., Suite 408, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

Edward I. Malewicz, Independent Executor of the Estate of Melanie Levy Malewicz, Deceased

By: Claire D. East, Attorney for the Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOHN

JOSEPH WHITAKER, Deceased, were issued on October 20, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001717, pending in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to: CYNTHIA VALERIE HILLIS WHITAKER.

The residence of the Executor is in Travis County, Texas; the post office address is:

c/o Kirt H. Kiester

Kiester, Lockwood & Ciccone, L.L.P.

611 West 14th Street,

Suite 100

Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 17th day of December, 2010.

KIESTER, LOCKWOOD & CICCONE, L.L.P.

By /s/ Kirt H. Kiester

State Bar No. 11393000

ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Glen L. Evans, Deceased, were issued on August 31, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-001301, pending in the Probate Court No. ONE, Travis County, Texas, to: Dorothy E. Newcomb.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: James L. Arth

700 Lavaca Street,

Suite 1150

Austin, Texas 78701

DATED Dec 8, 2010.

/s/ James L. Arth

Attorney for Dorothy E.

Newcomb

State Bar No.: 01362900

700 Lavaca Street,

Suite 1150

Austin, Texas 78701

Telephone: (512) 479-8989

Facsimile: (512) 479-7910

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Von Cile Mercer, Deceased, were issued to John R. Mercer as Independent Executor on December 7, 2010 in Cause

C-1-PB-10-001697, pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas.

Claims may be addressed to John R. Mercer, Attorney, 10607 Pickfair Dr., Austin, Tx. 78750. All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to

present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this 7th day of December, 2010. John R. Mercer, Attorney for the Estate.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Consulting Services Related to Redistricting, RFS S110035-EC

Opens: January 7, 2011 @ 2:00 p.m.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the project entitled, **REPLACE NATURAL GAS BOILERS (IFB No. B110053-JE)**, a project consisting of the removal and replacement of existing gas boiler's to include all parts and labor for a turn-key operation at the Travis County Health & Human Services Building, 2201 Post Road, Austin, TX 78704 (Location A) and the Travis County Bank of America & Juvenile Probation Annex Building, 2501 South Congress, Austin, Texas 78704 (Location B) in Travis County, will be received electronically through www.bidsync.com. Bids will be accepted until **2:00 P. M. CST, December 22, 2010**, then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked **"Sealed Bid, REPLACE NATURAL GAS BOILERS, IFB No. B110053-JE"** at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701.

NOTE: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids.

There are no Plans and Specifications other than what is provided in the Scope of Work. Please review the Scope of Work for project completion time and construction Estimates.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. **IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.** Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of

the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing.

PROJECT PERFORMANCE PERIOD IS 45 CALENDAR DAYS FROM DATE OF NOTICE TO PROCEED. IF THE CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN THE WORKING DAYS SPECIFIED, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OF \$450.00 PER DAY OF DELAY WILL BE ASSESSED.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD

for accuracy the first time it runs. *The Austin Chronicle* is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. *The Austin Chronicle's* liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 1pm.

AV0112 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

JANUARY 12TH, 2011 @ 9:30 AM

@ SOUTHSIDE WRECKER,

8200 S. CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX 78745

- | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----------|------|-------|------|--------|----|-------------------|
| 1. | 105063982 | 1985 | MERZ | 4DR | 050KHC | TX | WDBCA32C9FA133828 |
| 2. | 105064628 | 2001 | JEEP | LL | 236VWW | TX | 1J4FT48S11L566774 |
| 3. | 105064818 | | STRCF | TRAL | 93YYKN | | 1SAAS01E751AD4973 |
| 4. | 105064872 | 1983 | BUIC | 4DR | 449GWH | TX | 1G4AW69Y0DH525349 |

motor

cars

BUY AUTO Don't lose money before you trade in or sell. We buy; Cars, Trucks, & SUVs (used or not running). Call 512-442-4444

MAZDA 3 2007 2007 Mazda 3 i Touring for sale. 64,000 miles on it. Great car in great shape. Features auto trans., Power windows, power locks, cruise control, CD Player with MP3 player hook-up, Alloy Wheels. Asking 11,500. Contact Ryan cell - 512-299-2575 E-mail - ronnolly75@gmail.com

MERCEDES-BENZ 190E 1986

1986 Mercedes 190e 4cyl, Automatic, Unleaded Gasoline 109,000 miles, Motor Good, Transmission Good, Interior Good, Needs Brake Master Cylinder and Water Pump.You may test drive short distance. Call/Text to get address.512 552 1925.Thx

VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 1972

In good condition. Recently inspected. Engine and transmission rebuilt in 2002. Same owner since 1978. Maintenance records available. \$3,000. Call Rick at (512)461-6754.

trucks

CHEVROLET C-10 1970

Classic 1970 C-10 Long Bed Truck. Only 3 owners in the last 40 years! Truck is in great shape. New brakes rebuilt from the ground up. Detailed engine. Interior rebuilt but still many original parts. This one is a classic. Interested? Call 512-587-3290.

FREE ADS

Looking to hire a bartender?

Have an apartment you need to rent?

Want to advertise your handy-man skills?

All you need to do is go online to www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately.

After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

FORD F250 1999 converted to run on GREASE. Great truck email laurieb3@hotmail.com for details. \$8000OBO

parts

TIRES New and Used Tires--free mounting flat repairs wheel repairs OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK Austin Chronicles BEST of 2007 Leals Tire Shop 5319 N.Lamar Blvd Austin TX 78751 512-628-8300

TWENTY TWOS Wheels AND Tires - 22 Inches of Awesomeness! Foose Spank 6 Lug - Excellent condition Tires Size 305/40r22 114H+ - Excellent Condition Have ONLY 3 left - Priced to sell at \$150 EACH Retail for around \$600 EACH Call for address - 512 552 1925

repairs

INSPECTIONS

State Inspector - Vehicle Inspections Cars, Trucks, motorcycles, rv's, & trailers


9433 Parkfield Dr, 78758
8-6M-F 10-4Sat.

Se Habla Espanol


836-7661

easystreet


"TIGHT FIRM EXOTIC"

I'm 5'5" petite Chicana. Looking for a little late night fun. Love the outdoors and trying new things. Love to be adventurous and daring. **hottchica**, 30,  **#134242**


LUSTFUL BAD GIRL

Hi!Fun loving sweet girl ready to play. Seeking a hot couple. Love to please and very submissive. Shy about putting up pic. Would love to meet for coffee and more! **sweet submissive_cutie_pie**, 28,  **#134199**

SWEETANDCLASSY

Hello to all the gentlemen my names goldengoddest I'm a 33 year old submissive slave I'm looking for a very true dominate master please feel free to email me thanks. **goldengoddest**, 33,  **#134002**

FUN AND FLIRTY

I'm a very outgoing person I love going out and having fun. I have several tattoos. I'm looking for someone to have fun with and possibly more. **feffa82**, 28,  **#133778**


SWEET AM I

Just trying to get thru life as smoothly as possible, and be kind in the process. **kalka_wilder**, 26, **#133687**

GET POUNDED...

I'm cute, bisexual. Primarily looking for a good-looking guy to dominate me. Premium on a nice body. Hold me down, slap, call names, pull my hair, lead by collar. **CatGotYourTongue**, 30, **#134047**


TASTY PIECE

Tasty piece looking for her tasty piece match. Looking for a sexy white or Latin (wo)man that loves their woman thick and sweet. 420 friendly. **phoenixphenom10**, 22,  **#133164**

NEED EXCITEMENT

Would love to exchange explicit e-mail's with men, but am married and cannot meet. love kinky. **milf38**, 38, **#132955**



SWEET, FRIENDLY, PLUS-SIZE

I'm looking for friends and possibly friends with benefits. I am shy but open up really quickly. :) Send me a message. You won't regret it. **Willow1113**, 19,  **#129849**


MAYBE SOMETHING MORE

Not a thin, perfect Barbie type. Looking for an attractive M 25-36 who can keep up. **litfred**, 32,   **#128782**


DARE TO SLUT?

Fun, safe, rough and raunchy- serious about finding a female or couple for discreet encounters. Is there a dirty slut inside you daring to get out? I hold the key. **nevertooftast**, 38,   **#134415**


WANTS A GIRLFRIEND!

25 year old female. Bf is 27 and is willing to share me. I need a girl I can hang out with in/out of the bedroom! **BeautifulGirl713**, 25,  **#134292**



HIS FIRST THREESOME

We are an attractive couple seeking a feminine female for his first threesome. He is a singer in a band, therefore, we must be discreet. Email pics. **bibigirlie**, 40,  **#134288**


STUD FOR WIFE

we are looking for a well hung man to join us for a hot evening of play! **lynnum9**, 35,  **#134201**

SEXYKITTYKAT

Happy, secure, married couple seeking a woman or couple (man and woman) for discreet encounters. He enjoys watching, so let's give him a show he won't forget! **bcknrede4u**, 37,   **#134194**


LATIN COUPLE LOOKING

Couple new to this and looking to play with another couple or single bi lady. Both fit and ready to play. **austincouples**, 30,  **#134167**


COUPLE SEEKS SPICE

hey there, happily married couple seeks a new erotic adventure-add girl. Meet at a local bar.if mutually attracted head to nice hotel. we are in good shape. Have FUN. **austinthreesome**, 39,  **#134000**


SATURDAY NIGHT SEXTACY

We're looking for sexy, smart no-drama couples and single females. Pictures don't lie. We like friendship and fun almost as much as the play. **Bodychemistry**, 27,  **#133895**


GORGEOUS COUPLE SEEKING

Deeply-in-love, playful married couple actively seeks a 3rd in the person of a young woman for fun and fantasy play. Sound like fun? Message us ... **hotatxcouple**, 31,  **#133881**



AUSTIN'S SEXY COUPLE

Happily married black couple in search of Single ladies. We enjoy going out and looking for a well rounded woman to join us on our adventures. **BlkAustinCpl**, 26,  **#133842**

LETS SHARE CANDY

Sexy young couple seeks the same/ young female. He loves a woman in high heels and would love having you while she watches. We'll share what you share. **ripples**, 23,  **#133613**



COUPLE SEEKING ADVENTURE

Married couple seeks excitement in the bedroom. Interested in finding a woman or the right couple. Discretion a must. Safety required. STD Free. Non-smokers preferred. **sassyncute**, 38,   **#133462**

MINOR SEX GODS

... seek bi-demi-goddess for amusing sexy NSA adventures. He's dead sexy, an artist, and endowed; she's, quirky, bi, and jolie laide. We're brainy and bore-a-phobic. Sense of humor a must. **ixchel**, 36,  **#133238**


SPARKLE

Looking for people to have crazy fun with! We would like to meet women and couple's willing to share kinky fantasies. Come be naughty with us! **sparklepussy**, 31,   **#132740**


NO THANKS

No thanks. **GrafenbergSpotting**, 30,  **#132682**



DOMS SEEK PLAYMATES

We are a Dom couple who are looking for a sub female or a sub couple. We are bi switch and prefer to Dom. **Atdomx2**, 35,  **#132366**



TONGUE PLAY

I am looking for a woman to help me relax. I prefer hispanic or white woman, average size and who are girly. **lovelyt**, 26,  **#133370**


CUTIEKAILS FWB

Married couple looking for a third. No pressure, get to know eachother first and see where it leads.Looking for a thick lady between ages 21-38. Please no couples, men, or psychos! **kailsrocks**, 28,   **#133277**



FEMALE FOR ME

Married Hispanic BiFemale, 34 looking for BiFemale for fun encounters. Let's get together for drinks and see what happens? **femaleforme**, 35,   **#131835**


WILL TRY ANYTHING

I would like to try different things I haven't done before few limitations. I like to give and receive pleasure from different kinds of people. **newnopen**, 38,  **#134152**


PLAYMATE(S) FOR ASIANBEAUTY

AsianBeauty seeks Erotic Play with Woman or Man;couples considered. I'm very open-minded,feel free to suggest your sexual fantasies. Only Inquire if you're STD-Free. **AsianOrchid**, 25,   **#131487**


ROMPIN STOMPIN ROMANCE

Hey beautiful women I am a well hung horney guy looking for exciting discret encounters. **passion4u**, 48,  **#120998**



NW BI MALE

Experienced in oral but hoping for more. Bi guy with hot girl. One or both. Let me know what you want. Want normal and hopefully regular. **Mark1225**, 38,  **#134044**


PURE TANTRIC EXTACY

I am here to give you prolonged, body quivering, mind numbing, pleasure induced extacy. **Here4You**, 34,  **#134036**


AUSTIN FUN GUY

I am seeking a sexually charged woman or straight couple that is seeking a bit of excitingly naughty fun every now and then; prefer ongoing if all agree. **blktexan512**, 36,   **#133473**


LET'S HAVE PLAYTIME

hi. i'm looking for some fun, safe, sexy playmates. i would prefer a lady to play with, or better yet two. i'm also interested in experimenting with a guy/girl couple. **horny_n_curious**, 37,  **#133194**

NAUGHTY BI BOY

Title says it all. SWM seeking women and couples that are open-minded. Very DDF. Might be persuaded by males, if perfect fit. I love to submitting to women and kinks. **Centex_Male**, 39,  **#126501**


WANNA PLAY?

Looking for couples (m/f, f/f) and ladies to play. I am polite and respectful. I'm ok with just about everything, you set the limits. No pain. **Imagiver**, 39,  **#121919**


3SOMES

Couples/single females want a well Hung guy to join in? Discreet,clean,& able to go multiple rounds.. 6'3 green eyes brown hair 8c ddf. **up4almostanythingg**, 29,   **#116083**


CD 4 FUN

Just a crossdresser looking for hot times. I like to dress up and play the part. Daytime play at your place will be fun. Interested? **HotBlond**, 39,  **#134392**


LOOKING FOR FUN

Just looking for fun in bed and out of bed.I am 6'3 225 br hair br eyes. I am dominate in bed and have stamina. **Talldarkandgorgeous**, 26,  **#134416**


MARRIED, OPEN RELATIONSHIP

Married 10yrs, in open relationship. Looking for that right lady for ongoing fun. Professional, sane, fun, friendly, safe. 5'10" tall, 225lbs, 7" cut. **swATXfwb**, 33,  **#134411**



LOVE TO PLEASE

Looking for some fun...email/chat/ phone w/ an open-minded woman who likes to please as much as she Likes to be pleased. Discreet or not, will leave that up to you. **backintx74**, 36,  **#134407**


GREATTONGUE

Freshly divorced and looking to have some serious fun! Want to push my limits and experience everything possible sexually. Sound like you might have fun? You will ! **Bfun**, 29,  **#134393**

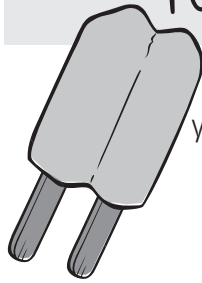
OLDER GALS WANTED

Trim 63 year old single white male with diverse interests desires afternoon lunches, lively conversation, and intimate encounters with older women that can still cut the mustard. **chef65**, 63,   **#130579**

LOVE NOT WAR

Pretty busy with work, so tough meeting hot women-fairly annoying, as am flesh and blood, not a robot. Whats a guy to do? Thought would give this a go. **jimbo**, 31,  **#134218**

Flavor of the Week



MorningEuphoria Age: 23
young couple for female playmate.

...we're both really positive people and appreciate others with the same quality. we're sensuous and playful and confident and want some one who is similar.

read the rest of **MORNINGEUPHORIA's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at **austinchronicle.com/easystreet**

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GET ON THE LIST & GET THE LUV DOC ALL UP IN YOUR INBOX EVERY WEEK
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Dec. 25 is just around the corner, and the war on Christmas is really heating up. Not only is Christmas under heavy assault from the politically correct left, who for years have been insidiously leaving the "Christ" out of Christmas or nixing the entire name in favor of the more generic and inclusive "holidays," it is also taking a huge hammering from corporate greedmongers with multimillion-dollar marketing budgets who quite wisely have appropriated the symbols of Christmas if maybe not the actual name. Big business is all over Christmas like a wet Santa suit, and why wouldn't it be? After all, appropriating other peoples' holidays is a tradition that dates all the way back to Adam – yeah, that Adam. Christmas itself has been a big holiday ever since it was Saturnalia. That Roman gift-giving holiday was a stroke of genius, and the early Christians knew it. Of course, they had to gloss over the fact that Jesus wasn't much of a shopper. Far from it. Jesus was actually a bit of a hippie (or maybe his beard was just ironic, and he rocked a pair of jorts under that tunic). He was also a peace creep and an unrepentant (imagine that) inclusionist. He was down with the lepers, the hos, the paralytics, the blind (which probably translates as "visually impaired" in Nazarean), the mentally ill, the sick, the dead, and, most importantly, the poor. Back in the first century, the poor people smelled nearly as bad as the dead ones, so caring for the poor was really taking one for Team Yahweh, so to speak. Really, the only thing that really got under Jesus' skin (besides a crown of thorns, some 9-inch nails, and a centurion's lance) was when he saw that moneychangers had set up shop in the temple of Jerusalem. Jesus went Billy Jack and started turning over tables, setting doves and livestock free ... all that shit. It's fairly safe to say that Jesus wasn't much of a materialist. If anything, he was hostile to materialism. Jesus didn't ride into Jerusalem on a chariot with spiny rims; he rode in on an ass. That's a statement. That's like Obama rolling up to the White House on a shitty moped. Jesus didn't wear bling or nice clothes. He didn't dine at fancy restaurants or go clubbing with his posse. Instead, he walked around with a growling stomach and dropped mindbombs on his disciples – stuff like, "Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor." Booom! Given that sentiment, it seems rather obvious that these days Christmas itself is a war on Christianity. Best Buy isn't having a "Give to the Poor" sale. That Mercedes with a bow tied around it isn't waiting outside a homeless camp. Those Zales holiday charm bracelets won't end up on the arms of war orphans. If Jesus were alive today (at least in a materialistic sense), he'd be wagging his own war on Christmas. He'd probably be lobbying to have his name taken out of Christmas entirely. What would Christmas be without the Christ? Just "mas," which means "more" in Spanish and pretty much nails the spirit of the season. At least then no one would have to fret over the war on Christmas and everyone could continue buying mas shit they don't need without the nagging guilt of Christian morality. Sounds like a win-win, doesn't it? Until then we'll just have to settle for rampant materialism slowed by occasional attempts at Christian charity. One of those is happening this Saturday at Dallas Nightclub, where local music impresario Randy Willis is hosting his 15th annual Pickin' on Christmas and Birthday Party, a live music concert benefiting the Travis County Brown Santa Toy Drive. For the price of one toy, you can see a lineup that includes Johnny Rodriguez, Vallejo, LC Rocks, Jeff Gallagher, the Cheyenne Band, Steven Franks, and Lucas Cook. That's a lot of music for only one toy. Maybe you can bring mas.

The Luv Doc

Randy Willis 15th Annual Pickin' on Christmas and Birthday Party • Sat., Dec. 18, 5-10pm
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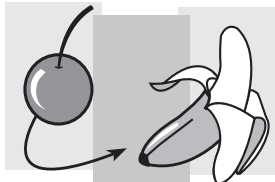
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lovers lane



SPONTANEOUS QUIRKY HYBRID

Hesitant to embrace the tech world of dating, but forced to admit I'm too spacey to realize when I'm being hit on. Coax me out from behind the curtain? **TigerLily**, 22, **#134404**

BEAUTIFUL, CURVY, TATTOOED Beautiful, curvy, and tattooed with an awesome personality! I love to laugh and have fun! I loved being single, but ready for something different. **hb1985**, 25, **#134397**

PEACE, LOVE, UNDERSTANDING

Looking for a kind and gentle man to respect me and cherish me. I am a strong and independent woman with a loving heart. **EarthMom4Peace**, 57, **#134391**

VINTAGE ROMANCE

I am a student and I am looking for a smart man that can be in a long term relationship. Very interested in music, classic movies, and conspiracies theories. **vintage60**, 20, **#129658**

SINGLE

It's so hard to describe myself as I am sure it's for most people. I guess the best way to put it's that I am genuine person with a huge heart.... **mybarbara01**, 33, **#134314**

SMART, CONFIDENT, FUN

Really? 30-word limit to describe myself? Um, I can strike up conversation with anyone, I studied French for eight years for nothing, and do boxer-wearing guys worry about saggy balls? **lesoleil**, 38, **#134303**

FUTURISTIC CHICK

I enjoy listening to bands, going out for coffee, or watching movies. I'm looking for an honest, hardworking guy that has been in the Austin area for a while. **geminigirl82**, 28, **#119250**

LOVE+WAR=ME

Trying to find a true romance. really quirky and energetic. I talk in circles but make perfect sense. I want to be myself around someone thats original and cheesy. **classylikeboxwine**, 23, **#134238**

GOOFY CUTE GIRL

Looking to meet new people and maybe even that special someone.i like to go to concerts,movies, swimming,kayaking,hiking,shopping,dancing, dining out,traveling,cuddling on the couch,laugh and goof around with good people. **MariaFria**, 24, **#134227**

EVERYWHERE YOU TURN

unbelievably delightful looking for same. **mary99**, 37, **#134093**

ACTIVE AND OUT-OF-CONTROL

Looking for someone that is as passionate for life as I am! Must enjoy outdoors and love dogs! Motivated and Inspired feel free to contact me! **mkissd9m**, 27, **#134221**

ROBOT... BEEP!

I love shows, being successful, and biking. In a partner I fancy eyes, beards, intelligence, and opinions.I'm not into consumerism or big corporations. I like dominance, I seek my opposite. **Euphoria**, 21, **#134192**

SHY, AWKWARD, BANGIN'!

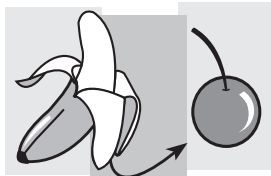
I like being comfortable! I enjoy food-currently craving some seafood, & dessert. I love spontaneous events- I need them! I love a good movie, musicals, and Frank Sinatra! Mmmm! **brightsmile**, 20, **#134135**

RAMBLING LITERARY FOOL

I'm a native midwesterner. More than anything I love a good book and I'm not a snob about the genre. I love a good wit. **beetpollen**, 26, **#134116**

SASSY, OUTGOING, TRAVELER

Been out of the dating scene for awhile and am ready to get back in. I try to live life to the fullest.Looking for someone who feels the same. **liz512**, 35, **#134081**



AIRBOUND, GENTLEMAN, CREATOR

a good man with a good heart that has been rebuild many times, i live my life for the next day cause it just seems to get better. **skankfrank**, 22, **#134414**

ECCENTRIC, WANNABE ARISTOCRAT

Moved back in August...I'm looking to meet new people and just be sociable. I love Austin from the outdoors to music to the friendly people in general. I'm home!!! **chance749**, 33, **#123529**

LAIDBACK, ADVENTUROUS, COURTEOUS.

I like being outdoors doing fun things like hiking the greenbelt, going to festivals around town, kayaking, camping, the beach, playing guitar, and hanging out with friends. **Sun-ray**, 25, **#134401**

LEVITATER

I'm trying to beat life because I can't cheat death. I'm passionate about life, art, and family. Sometimes being creative consumes all of me. **transcendi**, 29, **#134388**

KEEPING HOPE ALIVE

Well I am tall, blue-eyed, and love music and food. Spend lots of time thinking of things so I am very passionate about what I like. **Pas-sionateMess**, 27, **#134380**

UNFOLDING FROM WITHIN

Simply open to meeting someone to share this naturally burning fire from within!To contemplate nature, people, and the ticking of the clock with! **gypsiesamongstflowers**, 37, **#129691**

SEEKS LAUGHING BUDDHES!

Wow, approaching 60 in February, and I feel like I've already crammed several lifetimes into this one already -- seeking similar soul. **eclectic7**, 59, **#134369**

LAID BACK, SARCASTIC

Flirting on Lover's Lane is way fun, so return the favor ya love-sick sucka. BONUS POINTS: smart/shrewd/witty, into cool music & movies, easy-going, redhead(?), chill. **DestinysChild**, 23, **#134353**

FAR FROM AVERAGE

I am a cool guy, very laid back. Twisted, sarcastic sense of humor. Not a huge party person. 30 word limit for this is ridiculous. Ask me about me! **whateversclever**, 29, **#134351**

NEW SMILE'N TOWN

New in town and need a buddy to show me around Austin. Call me, let's work it out! **Jackwagon42**, 41, **#134332**

JAPANESE ITALIAN MAN

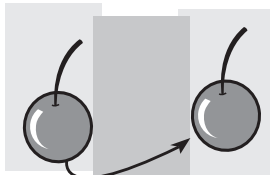
I am not much on talking about myself but I am very honest, giving, fun, loving, and I love playing pool. Can't wait to hear from you! **brucelee753**, 44, **#134333**

WHERE AM I?

I'm a strong believer in Murphy's Law. I like sushi and anything off a grill. Comedy/ no drama. Seeking a chick that doesn't take life too seriously. No psychopaths!!!! **truelygonefishing**, 28, **#134310**

HEY OVER HERE

Looking for a woman whose inner Morticia can get along with my inner Gomez. **kuxansum**, 37, **#134309**



SHY, EASY GOING

pretty quiet at first but once the engines start im pretty easy going. looking for some convo and maybe more. want to start out slow. **jstal-ilshy**, 28, **#134345**

BOHEMIAN PARADISE

I have a big heart and dedicate a lot of my time helping others. I love learning and celebrating diverse cultures.I try to live a sustainable lifestyle. **silly-woman**, 18, **#134320**

KIND HEARTED,SWEET, CARING

i'm a stay at home mommy...looking for someone mature and good head on her sholders.kids are okay. Come cuddle up with me. Even if your just looking for friends. **ShyMariposa**, 27, **#134222**

LAUGH AT LIFE

sooo ive never dated a woman, but want to. live for music, 420, and findin my bliss people tell me im honest and passionate and bourbon makes me grin. **katkins**, 23, **#134157**

SHY, CREATIVE, OUT-GOING

I'm shy when i first meet someone but i warm up pretty fast, I'm openminded and always ready to try new things. **singingpoema**, 19, **#134146**



LOOKING FOR LOVE

am faithful,honest n single. **terry-larry75**, 55, **#133519**

AM SUPA RAD

I am looking for a ganster/skaterish/emo type. DON'T LIKE FLAMERS. so please be down to earth. i am chill and party alot. No drama for me please! **mp3d3**, 18, **#133225**

MAKE AN OFFER

Available: One late model white male, low mileage, well-maintained, single-owner, runs smooth, tune-ups performed regularly, firm but comfortable seating with tons of features. Some minor scratches/flaws, but hardly noticeable. **tkaustin**, 49, **#119526**



YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Austin is a fun place and I want to get to know someone who wants to experience all that it has to offer. **thecatspajamas**, 21, **#134374**

TWO LEFT FEET

Help! Two left feet looking to learn how to dance with a patient compassionate instructor for fitness and fun! Very high energy, focused and passionate. **waterlootexas**, 41, **#134367**

PICK ME !

Hoping to meet people that are nerds/tech junkies, LAN party animals or average people. **JaySanchez414**, 31, **#134304**

NEW TO AUSTIN.

lookin for friends, likes= food, music, comic books, cheesy 80's movies, what have you. out. **foodiedude**, 22, **#134225**

TRUST ME, GNARLY!!

Hes the BOOGIE WOOGIE Pool Player from COMPANY B. **boeomob-sooom**, 37, **#134189**



Flavor of the Week

MISSLIZ Age: 20

Fun Loving

I'm always down to have a good time and am up for almost anything. I have a car, a job, two dogs, live alone and pay my own bills. I love camping, skinny dipping, hiking, and pretty much anything I can do outdoors.

read the rest of **MISSLIZ's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at **austinchronicle.com/loverslane**

a shot in the dark

STACY TANGO

Hey there - I loved meeting you and now I'm trying desperately to find you. I'm Philipp... we walked to the bodega for a bottle of wine... **When: Saturday, December 11. Where: Tango Studio. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905119**

SANTA P.I.

I wanna hire you to do some investigative work on a missing person! Chatted by the door, but friends dragged me onward, never to see you again. Coffee?? -Tacky Elf **When: Saturday, December 11. Where: Kiss and Fly. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #905118**

HAIKU- SUSHI AID

"Warren" ... thanks for ordering/reading our minds. I was the tech not the doctor, wouldnt mind hearing more about you, no pun intended. Beer and a burger? **When: Friday, December 10. Where: Haiku. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905117**

SOLD AT MOHAWK

You landed & took me in--great on the bass & soft on the eyes. Admired you from the crowd, thank you for the show. **When: Thursday, December 9. Where: The Mohawk. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905116**

SHY SMILE CENTRALMARKET

you: Handsome bearded, in navy sweater. me:blone with funny purse. We both admired the convertible VW van outside & I held the door for you. Would love dinner on the patio! **When: Saturday, December 11. Where: Central Market. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905115**

SMELLS LIKE...

You flashed me in the Days Inn parking lot. Nice tush. Inside, you were the freshest and tastiest thing on the table. Outside thunder roared. Seeds of stars were planted. **When: Sunday, December 5. Where: Star Seeds. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905114**

HISSING AND YOWLING

My dog was eating the neighbor. You were hissing and yowling, skulking about like a feral cat, and whining about being so busy. Think you can squeeze me in sometime? **When: Thursday, December 2. Where: "BFE". You: Woman. Me: Man. #905113**

WEIRDOS. YOU. W/DOG.

Me: flaired hair, out of style brown Ruehl shirt You: Black jacket, blonde hair in pony-tail and small adorable dog w/you. Casual meeting at Weirdos? dogs allowed :) **When: Friday, December 10.**

Where: Weirdos. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905112

RENTED A PROWLER

Dec 4 at the annual. Kicking myself for not getting your phone number? **When: Saturday, December 4. Where: Annual. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905111**

CUTE BLONDE GUY

you: cute blonde guy. You smiled at me. I smiled back. where: foodcourt at mall. me: I was wearing glasses and a light pink scarf. Coffee sometime? **When: Wednesday, December 8. Where: foodcourt. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905110**

SMELLS LIKE...

Parking lot, you flashed me. Great tush. Inside, you were the only fresh thing on the menu. Outside, bikers roared by. You didn't flash them. Seeds of stars were planted. **When: Sunday, December 5. Where: Star Seeds. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905109**

KMART WITH KOOZIE?

We talked for a minute. You were drinking a beer wrapped in a koozie and said your friends called you KMart. Let's talk more. **When: Tuesday, November 16. Where: Bone Daddys. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905108**

HALF PRICE BOOKS

So.. Half price books...me glad to find cohen.. U are old and cand handle pong.. Do not even know if your available.. Thought u were lovely **When: Saturday, December 5. Where: Half price books s. Lamar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905106**

STARBUCKS OAK HILL

You: Justin, Sbux @ the Y, am shift. Me: Venti iced coffee w/add shot in red car. Where did you go? **When: Sunday, November 14. Where: Starbucks. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905105**

TEXAS WOMENS VOLLEYBALL

You said you worked for TX Health Science Center. I commented on you using two phones. I was encumbered but spoke with you. Meet for coffee or soft drink. **When: Friday, December 3. Where: Texas Womens Volleyball game. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905104**

ELYSIUM 80'S NIGHT

I was dancing, heartbreak in my head. Out of nowhere you say "Let it go!" We kissed before your friends stole you away. Wanna know how you read my mind. **When: Sunday, November 21. Where: Elysium 80's Night. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905103**

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